

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES — NEWMAN

35. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

I refer the minister to the lack of mental health services in Newman.

- (1) Other than psychiatric services in schools, how many mental health workers are there in the town of Newman?
- (2) Given the increase in mental health problems for men in the region, particularly fly in, fly out workers, are there plans to increase mental health services in Newman?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The mental health service in Newman has five full-time employees. That is counted as five full-time equivalents, obviously.
- (2) Further service expansion is planned for the employment of additional mental health workers through funding allocated to the Pilbara from the statewide Aboriginal mental health service, through the Closing the Gap National Partnership Agreement, Transition to Adulthood program.