

HARVEY DISTRICT HOSPITAL — RADIOGRAPHY SERVICES

1147. Hon ADELE FARINA to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Has Harvey District Hospital closed its radiography services and are patients being referred to Imaging the South in Bunbury for this service?
- (2) Why has Harvey District Hospital closed its radiography services?
- (3) Why was a relief radiologic technologist, a radiation therapist or a radiographer not engaged at Harvey District Hospital to avoid the closure of its radiography services?
- (4) For how long will Harvey District Hospital remain without radiography services?
- (5) What other services either have been cut or are being cut in Harvey District Hospital?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) Harvey District Hospital has not closed its radiography service but is experiencing difficulties in maintaining the usual coverage of three days per week by a radiographer. At present, a radiographer can be provided for only one day per week. The nurses who are on roster and who are qualified X-ray operators can perform limited services. Patients requiring radiology services that are not available at Harvey are referred to Bunbury.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Full-time relief radiographers were sought. However, there were none available at that time due to demands across the state. A radiographer has now been appointed and will commence in December 2009.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Nil.