

KALGOORLIE REGIONAL HOSPITAL — MENTAL HEALTH STAFF

2186. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health

I refer to the Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital and the mental health unit, and I ask —

- (1) Can the Minister state how many full time and part positions in the last 24 months have remained unfilled and vacant, including the period of time in months for psychiatrists and psychologists?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Can the Minister state the total budgeted amount for full time and part time staff in the mental health area at the Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?
- (5) Can the Minister state for each respective human resources level, the salary, the position number, and title for all full time and part time staff allocated to the mental health area at the Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital?
- (6) If no to (5), why not?
- (7) Is it correct that in the last 12 months positions within the mental health area, have remained unfilled for long periods of time impacting negatively on the quality of services provided to the eastern goldfields community in Kalgoorlie Boulder?
- (8) If no to (7), what specifically is correct?
- (9) Will the Minister intervene or change Government policy to ensure that unfilled positions in the mental health area are combined into one position with a higher salary to attract suitable applicants to work in the Kalgoorlie–Boulder area?
- (10) If no to (9), why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) The WA Country Health Service (WACHS) – Goldfields Mental Health Inpatient Unit at Kalgoorlie Hospital has not had any vacant positions over the past 24 months. There has been a resident Psychiatrist in Kalgoorlie over this time. The Mental Health Inpatient Unit does not employ a psychologist.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) \$1,590,360
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Positions at the Kalgoorlie Mental Health Inpatient Unit are:
 - Position Number 601548: 1 FTE x Unit Manager, ANF SRN Level 3 Salary: \$85,642.
 - Position Number 601556: 2 FTE x Clinical Nurse ANF Level 2, Salary: \$66,948 to \$71,131.
 - Position Number 601555: 8 FTE x Nurses ANF Level 1. Salary \$49,325 to \$64,908.
 - Position Number 601591: 1.4 FTE x Patient Care Assistant, LHMU Level 3/4. Salary \$756.42 to \$792.25 weekly rate payable.
 - Position Number: 601038: 0.75 FTE x Ward Clerk, HSU G2. Salary \$44,888 to \$48,310.
- (6) Not applicable.
- (7) No.
- (8) The Mental Health Inpatient Unit at Kalgoorlie Hospital has not carried vacancies within the last 12 months.
- (9)-(10) Not applicable. Public sector provisions enable agencies to provide an attraction and retention allowance for a position, where it has been demonstrated the position is difficult to fill.