

RAILCAR DRIVERS — SICK LEAVE

813. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How many railcar drivers were booked off sick on Friday, 24 September?
- (2) Of those —
 - (a) how many presented medical certificates;
 - (b) how many were paid; and
 - (c) how many were subject to their pay being docked?
- (3) Did the Public Transport Authority make any contact with any doctors regarding its employees; and, if yes, which doctors?
- (4) How did the PTA identify which doctors to contact?
- (5) Why did the PTA contact those doctors?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I am sure that they were not witchdoctors! I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Ninety-four.
- (2) (a) Fifty-eight.
(b)–(c) All employees absent on 24 September 2010 were recorded as being absent without leave and were not paid for that day unless or until an application for leave has been approved. The Public Transport Authority is still processing applications for leave on that day. To date, 13 employees have had their leave approved.
- (3) Yes, the PTA put in place arrangements with Gemini Medical Services Pty Ltd, Prime Health Group and Central City Medical Centre.
- (4) For 24 September 2010, medical services were selected on the basis that they were able, at short notice, to make a dedicated medical service available at various locations across the metropolitan area for drivers to be seen.
- (5) On 23 September 2010, the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission made orders that, in the circumstances of 24 September 2010, the proof required by the PTA could include the employee submitting to a medical examination by a medical practitioner of the employer's choice on the day for which leave is claimed.