

ST JOHN AMBULANCE PARAMEDIC — NEWMAN

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

- (1) What funds have been allocated by the state government to the St John Ambulance service to secure the ongoing presence of a paramedic in the township of Newman?
- (2) Is the provision of a St John Ambulance paramedic in Newman now agreed to be a permanent part of the agreement between the WA health department and St John Ambulance Australia (WA)?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The recent partnership agreement between the Liberal-National government's royalties for regions initiative and major industries in the Pilbara for additional funding for Pilbara health includes the allocation of funding for four paramedic positions in the Pilbara, one of which is the community paramedic position in Newman.
- (2)-(3) An independent review of St John Ambulance Australia (WA) is currently underway. Following the completion of the review, the contract for ambulance services between WA Health and St John Ambulance for 2009 to 2014 will be renegotiated including the requirements for country ambulance services.