

ROEBOURNE DISTRICT HOSPITAL

1119. Hon KEN BASTON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the Roebourne District Hospital and to an article in the *Pilbara News* on 9 August 2006 that states that the member for North West Coastal met with the Minister for Health, Jim McGinty, and got the good news that the hospital would not close and that services offered at that hospital would not be changed.

- (1) Has the Department of Health introduced a policy that effectively refers patients to Karratha Hospital to bolster the case for closing Roebourne District Hospital?
- (2) Is the local Aboriginal medical service prohibited from admitting patients to Roebourne District Hospital; and, if so, why?
- (3) Will the minister provide a list of doctors and/or agencies with admitting rights to Roebourne District Hospital; and, if not, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No.
- (2) The local Aboriginal medical service is able to admit its patients by direct referral to the admitting rights doctor at Roebourne District Hospital.
- (3) The one admitting doctor resides in Wickham. His name is Dr Padayachee, and he runs the Gemini Medical Centre, which is based in the Wickham Health Centre.