

PEEL MOBILE HEALTH SERVICE

269. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the response from the Minister for Health to a question from the member for Murray–Wellington during question time on Wednesday, 21 June in which the minister announced that unspent bushfire relief funding would be used to prop up the Peel Mobile Health Service.

- (1) What is the amount of the funds that are being plundered from the bushfire relief fund?
- (2) Will access to the Peel Mobile Health Service now be exclusive to victims of the bushfire?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) Has the government advised contributors to this fund that their generous donations will not be exclusively available to victims of the Yarloop–Waroona bushfires?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I have been advised of the following response by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

- (1)–(3) Funds originally committed to the Shire of Waroona by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet to assist with an expansion of its waste facility following the devastating 2016 bushfires are being redirected to assist the recovery efforts of the rural and farming communities of the shires of Harvey and Waroona. The one-off funds are primarily to be used for the removal of fire-affected waste from farming and agricultural properties. These funds are not part of the bushfire relief fund. Remaining recovery funds may be used to assist with capacity and resilience building, including support for the Peel Mobile Health Service, with a particular focus on post–fire recovery related mobile services in the shires of Harvey and Waroona. These services will have a particular focus on those impacted communities.
- (4) These funds are being paid from an existing allocation within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, not from a contributed bushfire relief fund.