

ORTHOTIC AND PROSTHETIC CLINICAL SERVICE VISITS — MINING AND PASTORAL REGION

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

I refer to the provision of orthotic and prosthetic clinical service visits to communities in the Mining and Pastoral Region.

- (1) Will the WA Country Health Service be funding this service to regional communities from 2020 onwards?
- (2) If yes to (1), which communities will receive these clinical service visits?
- (3) If no to (1), why not?
- (4) How many people in the Kimberley, Pilbara, North West Central and Kalgoorlie have attended these clinics in the last 12 months?

**Hon ALANNA CLOHESY replied:**

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

- (1) Yes. The WA Country Health Service will continue to fund orthotic and prosthetic services for health-related conditions not supported through other funding streams.
- (2) Broome, Derby, Kununurra, Karratha, Port Hedland and Geraldton via visiting or metropolitan-based services, as well as local service providers—for example, private and public physiotherapists and podiatrists.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) The number of people who accessed specialist visiting orthotic and prosthetic services between January and December 2018 was —
  - (a) North West Central, WACHS midwest, 15;
  - (b) Pilbara, 40;
  - (c) Kimberley, 61; and
  - (d) Kalgoorlie, not applicable. There is no WACHS-funded visiting orthotic and prosthetic service to Kalgoorlie.

The majority of clients who access visiting orthotic and prosthetic services are funded via non-WACHS programs—for example, the Western Australian Limb Service for Amputees, the National Disability Insurance Agency and aged care.