

CARNARVON FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE — FUNDING

72. Hon SUE ELLERY to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to funding for a community counsellor position with the Carnarvon Family Support Service Inc.

- (1) Can the minister advise the status of current funding for this position?
- (2) Given that secure three-year funding agreements allow organisations such as the CFSS to focus on service delivery rather than on preparing their next funding application, will the minister commit to securing longer term funding for this valuable service?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for notice of this question and provide this answer —

- (1) The WA Country Health Service Mid West has a current six-month agreement with the Carnarvon Family Support Service, extending until 30 June 2010. However, this relates to services to be delivered and does not specify a particular position. The agreement is dependent upon commonwealth funding obtained through the rural primary health services program, and this funding has only been formally agreed until 30 June 2010.
- (2) The commonwealth funding obtained through the RPHS program is expected to be confirmed for a period of three years in the coming weeks. This, in turn, will enable a three-year agreement to be undertaken between the WACHS Mid West and the CFSS.