

ORTHOTIC AND PROSTHETIC CLINICAL SERVICE VISITS — MINING AND PASTORAL REGION

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

I refer to the answer to question without notice 817 asked on 13 August 2019 about the provision of orthotic and prosthetic clinical service visits in the Mining and Pastoral Region.

Will the patient assisted travel scheme be available to people who require orthotic and prosthetic services that are funded by other funding streams such as the National Disability Insurance Scheme but are delivered only in the metropolitan region?

Hon ALANNA CLOHESY replied:

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

The patient assisted travel scheme provides assistance for patients to access eligible medical specialist services only. PATS will support the fitting and replacement of an artificial limb, but not subsequent adjustments. PATS is not available for orthotic and prosthetic services delivered by orthotists, podiatrists or physiotherapists, regardless of the funding stream supporting the service. People who are attending PATS-supported medical specialist appointments as per PATS policy and guidelines can also attend additional non-PATS eligible clinical appointments as part of the same approved trip.