

HEALTH — AMBULANCES — ALBANY HIGHWAY

884. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to ambulance coverage along the Albany Highway between Perth and Albany, and I ask:

- (a) which ambulance substations service Albany Highway in response to road accidents;
- (b) which of those substations are staffed by paid ambulance officers and which are staffed by volunteers;
- (c) what distance does each substation cover as primary service providers along the highway;
- (d) are any areas of Albany Highway more than one hour's response time from an ambulance substation, and, if so, which areas;
- (e) what is the average response time for accidents on Albany Highway;
- (f) what is the Government's management plan for ambulance services along Albany Highway; and
- (g) have any changes been made to ambulance management along Albany Highway, and, if so, what are those changes?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a) The following sub-stations service Albany Highway; Narrogin, Williams, Darken, Wagin, Katanning, Kojonup, Tambellup, Cranbrook, Mount Barker and Albany.
- (b) Narrogin and Albany sub-stations are staffed by Paid Ambulance Officers (partnered with Volunteer Ambulance Officers). Williams, Darken, Wagin, Katanning, Kojonup, Tambellup, Cranbrook and Mount Barker sub-stations are staffed by Volunteer Ambulance Officers.
- (c) There is no specified coverage area for each sub-station. In the case of an incident, the State Operations Centre (SOC) would dispatch the closest available resource to respond.
- (d) No.
- (e) St John Ambulance (SJA) WA's average response time to motor vehicle accidents where the patient scene location was Albany Highway, from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 was 15 minutes and 34 seconds.
- (f) The Government is currently in contract negotiation with SJA and will aim to better define the level of services available to country communities.
- (g) No changes have been made to ambulance management along Albany Highway by SJA.