

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

**201. Hon SOPHIA MOERMOND to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health:**

I refer to the WA government's mental health services.

- (1) Do mental health emergency response units or teams include alcohol and other drugs specialist workers?
- (2) If not, how do mental health emergency response units or teams gain access to expertise in alcohol and drugs when undertaking assessments of mental health emergency patients?

**Hon PIERRE YANG replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Health.

- (1)–(2) The care provided for co-occurring mental health and alcohol and other drugs presentations varies across health service providers. Approaches include training mental health clinicians in undertaking assessments, providing access to ED general nursing staff who specialise in AOD or other AOD staff, and consulting with and referring to Next Step Drug and Alcohol Services, community alcohol and drug service teams and non-government AOD organisations.