



## APPENDIX B

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

#### Estimates and Financial Operations Committee 2017-18 Annual Report hearings - Additional questions

#### Department of Health

#### Hon Colin Tincknell MLC asked:

1. I refer to the Dept of Health Annual Report page 64 and ask what accounts for the reduction in funding for the Regional Health (Kalgoorlie Esperance) Telehealth Program?

Answer:

From 1 July 2017, the clinical resources established through the Regional (Kalgoorlie, Esperance) Telehealth services have been transferred to the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and these services will continue to be funded. The development of regional telehealth services will continue to be funded under the WACHS wide Digital Innovation Program.

2. I refer to page 250 of the Annual Report regarding voluntary separations and note terminations payments of \$10,250,000. How many of the redundancies were from regional Health Department areas?

Answer:

Note: It appears this question refers to page 59 and not 250.

None. The Department of Health does not have any offices in regional areas, WA Country Health Service however does have offices in regional areas and its annual report has been tabled (Tabled paper no. 2025).

3. I note on page 136 that \$47,150 was spent on remunerating members of the Human Research Ethics Committees.

- (a) How many clinical and non-clinical drug trials are currently being conducted at the various metropolitan Health Services?

Answer:

The Department of Health is unable to answer this question as all clinical trials are managed within the Health Service Providers (HSPs) by their respective Human Research Ethics Committees (HREC).

- (b) How many of these were approved by a Health Department Ethics Committee?

Answer:

None. The Department of Health HREC does not approve clinical trials conducted at the metropolitan sites of the HSPs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. Tincknell".

- (c) How many were approved by a private Ethics Committee?

Answer:

Unknown. The Department of Health does not hold this information.

4. I refer to the unauthorised use of credit cards (page 140) and note the low number of transactions (totalling \$141) that were deemed to be unauthorised.

- (a) How many credit cards are in use at the Health Department across all services?

Answer:

The Department of Health currently has 83 credit cards in use.

- (b) How does the Health Department audit usage?

Answer:

The Department of Health Business Services team review card transactions to ensure all purchased items and transactions are correctly approved and coded in accordance with the Department's policies. Where invoices are not available for a transaction, staff are required to submit a statutory declaration.

The internal audit team at the Department perform regular audits on the card management processes. The OAG also perform an annual audit on the transactions.

