

West Coast – Support for Remote Health Practitioners

Ms DOW question to MINISTER for HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH and WELLBEING

My question is from my constituents on the West Coast. The minister will be aware, I am sure, of the recent decision by Ochre Health not to renew the contract of a registrar who has relocated from Western Australia with the intention of establishing herself permanently on the West Coast. This decision has significant implications for the continuity of care in a region that has long struggled to attract and retain permanent medical practitioners. The West Coast continues to rely heavily on short-term locums, resulting in fragmented care and ongoing frustrations for residents. Will the minister outline to the House what work the department is doing with stakeholders to ensure registrars are properly supported to remaining communities like the West Coast?