

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

C001

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE (Of which some notice has been given)

Tuesday, 17 February 2015

Hon Robin Chappie MLC to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health

1. The WA Health Aboriginal Workforce Strategy 2014-2024 was released in early 2014. It builds upon the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Framework Business Plan 2008-2013. Can you advise how the earlier plan was evaluated, and the outcomes of this evaluation in relation to the 30 initiatives listed under the five key result areas in the plan?
2. The 2013/14 WA Health Operational Plan has a priority of "Increasing by 100 the number of Aboriginal people employed in WA Health in 2013-14." Can the Minister advise how many Aboriginal people were employed in WA Health as at 30 June 2013 and as at 30 June 2014?
3. The 2014/15 WA Health Operational Plan has a milestone "Increase by 100 the number of Aboriginal people employed in WA Health in 2014-15." Can the Minister advise the basis on which this number was disaggregated between the four Area Health Services and the Department of Health? What is the milestone to be reached for each Area Health Service?

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Health.

(1) The *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Framework Business Plan 2008-2013* was evaluated by the Department of Health through a working group with representation from the Aboriginal health units of all Area Health Services.

Of the 30 initiatives, 10 were not progressed due to a change in policy direction and external factors such as program funding uncertainty with COAG. 17 initiatives were completed and 3 initiatives were incorporated in the *WA Health Aboriginal Workforce Strategy 2014-2024* (Strategy).

(2) A change in data collection method for the Baseline Aboriginal Headcount for the WA Health Operational Plan in 2013-14 was taken from 1 July 2013.

As of July 2013, the total number of Aboriginal people employed in WA Health was 512.

As of June 2014, the total number of Aboriginal people employed in WA Health was 447.

(3) The target of increasing Aboriginal staff by 100 for WA Health has been apportioned for each budget holder, based on headcount within each budget holder.

The 30 June 2015 target for Health Services is an additional 100 Aboriginal staff compared with June 2014, taking the total target for the 2014/15 financial year to 547.

The target for each budget holder for the 2014-15 financial year is presented in tabular form and I seek leave to have the information incorporated into Hansard:

Budget Holder	Juue 2014	July- June 2014/15	
	Baseline	Target increase	Target
WACHS	305	21	326
NMHS	40	26	66
SMHS	50	33	83
CAHS	32	10	42
DOH	13	1	14
Pathwest	1	4	5
Dental Services	4	2	6
Health Corporate Network	2	2	4
Health Information Network	0	1	1
WA Health Total	447	100	547