

# WRITTEN QUESTIONS

## 7th Assembly

30/03/1995

### 38. Departmental Staffing Arrangements

Mr. BELL to MINISTER for HEALTH SERVICES

#### QUESTION

1. As at 30 March 1995, how many positions are vacant by Community Care District for the following staff:
  - (a) nurses;
  - (b) doctors;
  - (c) Aboriginal health workers; and
  - (d) environmental health officers.
  
2. How many of the positions are vacant in the following programme areas, by district:
  - (a) dental health programmes;
  - (b) mental health programmes;
  - (c) sexual assault programmes;
  - (d) drug and alcohol services;
  - (e) disease control;
  - (f) environmental health programmes; and
  - (g) family, youth and children's services.
  
3. How long have any of the positions in questions 1 and 2 been vacant.

#### ANSWER

Answered on 15/08/95

1. As at 30 March, the following positions were vacant by Community Care District for the following staff:

POSITION	DARWIN URBAN	DARWIN RURAL*	A/SPRINGS URBAN	A/SPRINGS RURAL	KATHERINE	BARKLY	EAST ARNHEM	
Nurses	33	6	1	4	nil	1	1	
Doctors	6	4	nil	2	nil	nil	1	
AHWs	2	3	1.5		13	8**	11	19
EHOs	nil	nil	n/a		nil	nil	nil	nil

AHWs = Aboriginal Health Workers

EHOs = Environment Health Officers

\* Note: None of the positions are actually vacant, however because they are contract positions, they are not filled permanently.

\*\* Note: At all communities in the Katherine District over the past 3½ years, Registered Nurses have been employed in lieu, when no AHW's were available.

2. The following positions were vacant in the following programme areas by district:

POSITION	DARWIN URBAN	DARWIN RURAL*	A/SPRINGS URBAN	A/SPRINGS RURAL	KATHERINE	BARKLY	EAST ARNHEM
Dental	6	n/a	1	n/a	nil	nil	1
Mental	20	2	1	2	nil	nil	nil
Sexual	1	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	n/a	nil
D&A	13	n/a	1 p/t	n/a	nil	2	nil
Disease	4	n/a	n/a	5	nil	nil	1
Enviro	nil	nil	n/a	nil	nil	nil	nil
FYCS	13	5	2	1	4	2	1

Dental = Dental Health Programmes  
 Mental = Mental Health Programmes  
 Sexual = Sexual Assault Programmes  
 D&A = Drug and Alcohol Services  
 Disease = Disease Control  
 Enviro = Environmental Health Programmes  
 FYCS = Family, Youth and Children's Services

\* Note: None of the positions are actually vacant, however because they are contract positions, they are not filled permanently.

3. The following indicates how long the above positions have been vacant:

**Darwin Urban**

Nurses 1-6 months +  
 Doctors 6 months +  
 AHW's 3-6 months +  
 EHOs nil  
 Dental 3-6 months  
 Mental 1-6 months  
 Sexual 3 months  
 D&A 2-6 months  
 Disease 5-6 months  
 Enviro nil  
 FYCS 2-6 months

**Alice Springs Urban**

Nurses (new position)  
 Doctors nil  
 AHW's One to be devolved to Central Australian Aboriginal Congress  
 (refer to 'Mental' below)

EHOs	n/a
Dental	6-12 months
Mental	1 AHW to be devolved to Congress
Sexual	nil
D&A	9-12 months
Disease	n/a
Enviro	n/a
FYCS	3 weeks - 9 months

### **Katherine**

Nurses	nil
Doctors	nil
AHW's	6 months - 5 years. Note, at all communities in the Katherine District over the past 3½ years, Registered Nurses have been employed in lieu, when no AHWs were available.
EHOs	nil
Dental	nil
Mental	nil
Sexual	n/a
D&A	nil
Disease	nil
Enviro	nil
FYCS	2-13 months.

### **Darwin Rural**

None of the positions are actually vacant, however because they are contract positions, they are not filled permanently.

### **Alice Springs Rural**

Nurses	4 days - 2 years
Doctors	3-6 months
AHW's	6-12 months
EHOs	nil
Dental	n/a
Mental	8 months
Sexual	n/a
D&A	n/a
Disease	3 weeks - 4 months
Enviro	nil
FYCS	3 months

### **Barkly**

Nurses	3 months
Doctors	nil
AHW's	12 months +
EHOs	nil
Dental	nil
Mental	nil
Sexual	n/a
D&A	4 months
Disease	nil
Enviro	nil

FYCS 1-4 months

**East Arnhem**

Nurses	2 weeks (refer to 'Disease' below)
Doctors	13 months
AHW's	14-19 months
EHOs	nil
Dental	4 weeks
Mental	nil
Sexual	nil
D&A	nil
Disease	2 weeks
Enviro	nil
FYCS	5 months