[Proof]



Second Parliament Tenth

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

Thursday, 31 March 2022

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Confidential and Subject to Revision

Corrections to be returned via the Change Request form by 1pm on the day following the above sitting day

TABLE OF CONTENTS

JOBNAME: COVERDATE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 31 March 2022

The SPEAKER (Hon. D.R. Cregan) took the chair at 11:00 and read prayers.

The SPEAKER: Honourable members, I respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of this land upon which the parliament is assembled and the custodians of the sacred lands of our state.

16th April proceedings

The SPEAKER (12:00):

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12th January 2021

AN ACHIEVABLE SUBJECT

Test SUb proceeding

The SPEAKER:

THE HON. ANDREWS (Mill Park—Premier, Special Minister of State and Minister for Solar Homes) (12:00):

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Turn003

Dr McGOWAN: They are a decision of government.

[=cpnev=]What is the total cost of these paramedics over the forward estimates?

Dr McGOWAN: I am sure they were in the forward estimates in the budget papers, the mid-year Budget Paper review.

Mr ELLIOTT: They were announced just afterwards, the transfer of that funding from Treasury as part of the normal budget process will happen in the next week or so, so it has not transferred to us earlier. I think the figure you are quoting is the amount over the forward estimates. Obviously 51 FTEs year on year-we are [inadible] at that.

[=cpnev=]You also said that 30 of the paramedics would be placed in the metropolitan area and 21 in regional. When are they expected to start, what yea? Dr McGOWAN: I am not sure about what year, but the ambulance is still working through they will be placed. We will do the proper due diligence, looking at where the carries are, where the shortages are. There is quite an open and transparent way of deciding where and which resources will be deployed. That work is continuing. When will they start? I guess that is a question for Rob, but you have to recruit them I guess, is the issue.

Mr ELLIOTT: The early indications are that we will add these FTE in, I believe, July and November 2022. That coincides with the graduation of some of our intern groups as they become eligible for employment as paramedics on an ongoing basis.

[=cpnev=]Do we know how many are graduating in these two periods? Mr ELLIOTT: I believe, from memory, 63 people, so 63 permanent interns will complete their internship and be eligible for employment. Some of those may be needed towards the normal attrition we see over time. We anticipate those groups will provide us the capacity to achieve the 51 FTE.

[=cbett=]Supplementary on that, have you seen an increase in attrition? Are paramedics leaving your service? Mr ELLIOTT: Actually, no. We had a little bit of a look at this earlier in the year. Our attrition is tracking slightly under our prediction. Our prediction is predominantly around age range, retirement and what we see in terms of people selecting part-time work. We may have perhaps expected a little higher than has occurred. We always revise those predictions on an annual basis through our operational planning group. Whether our predictions might have been a bit high or the attrition is tracking a bit low, but we have not actually seen a high number. I guess we are about to see some of that data again shortly. I think our next operational? planning group is next week, so it will be interesting to see what the trend line.

We also do notice that towards the end of a year, towards the end of a financial year, a small increase in the number of staff, particularly around retirements, that planned exit for the workforce. If I looked back on the data and saw that around the end of the year, that would not surprise me, and certainly coming into June/July, I would expect to see a small increase again, but so far this financial year we are actually tracking below what we had predicted would be our attrition rate, and our attrition does include all factors-part-time work and retirement are probably the main onces we see in that sort of attrition bubble.

At the moment I would have to say, given the COVID emergency and other things, the persistence of our staff is quite extraordinary. It is an absolute commendation to them in the current circumstances we find ourselves in, having that predicted line higher than our actual attrition.

[=cbett=]What is the average age of a paramedic in South Australia? Mr ELLIOTT: I don't have that information to hand, but we would be able to work that out and provide it to you.

[=cbett=]You said it is lower than you expected. Could you outline to the committee how many paramedics we have and how many leave the service per year-is it 10 per cent, is it 5 per cent-that would be of assistance to us in our report. Mr ELLIOTT: I will have to get definitive numbers for you, but our attrition generally tracks at between 2 and 5 per cent, so it is quite low. I will take it on notice and provide you some data on that.

Bills

A BILL FOR BILL

THE HON. DIXON (Tarneit—Minister for Transport and Roads) (14:00):

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A Test 2

BEN REGRESSION TEST

THE HON. ANDREWS (Mill Park—Premier, Special Minister of State and Minister for Solar Homes) (15:00):

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