

Question on Notice
No. 901
Asked on 19 August 2004

MS LEE LONG asked the Minister for Health (MR NUTTALL)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the doctor shortage at the Mareeba public hospital and efforts made to recruit registered medical officers to the area—

Will he give details of (a) how the position was advertised, (b) what medians were used and (c) how often the advertisements were placed?

ANSWER:

- (a) The position was initially advertised in March 2004 in the Health Services Bulletin for three weeks and the Weekend Australian. No appropriate applicants resulted from these advertisements.
- (b) In addition to traditional newspaper advertising, which was unsuccessful, six agencies have been used on a regular basis; the Queensland Health locum network, District Managers, HR Managers and Medical Superintendents across the state have also been contacted. The District has also applied for a Queensland Health rural scholarship holder.
- (c) The advertisements were placed once as advertisements were found to be unproductive both in the past and in this instance. As the best pool of possible candidates for the position was identified through agencies and sectoral networks, these avenues were actively pursued.