

Health has been ignored for too long

The hospital saga of patients parked in corridors on beds waiting for attention continues (*News*, 13/3).

For an 88-year-old grandmother to be left for 48 hours without proper care is not just unacceptable. It is downright disgusting that it has happened in Western Australia, where wealth and resources are in abundance.

It is all very well for shadow health minister Libby Mettam to blast Health Minister Meredith Hammat for "miss-speaking" in regard to the beds' quantity, but it needs to be admitted that this shambles in the health system has been festering for years — and the Liberals are also to blame for not doing more when they were in power.

However, the Labor Party has been at the helm for a sizeable amount of time with a purse bursting at the seams, but unfortunately hospitals and health are not the priorities.

Nevertheless, it's never too late, and if Roger Cook slips on some skates who knows what could be achieved?

Mario Rapanaro, Dianella

What excuse this time?

I wonder what excuse our leader Roger Cook will find for yesterday's shocking headline in the West Australian?

It seems rather odd that there is enough cash for the unwanted racetrack, but not enough to provide hospital beds for the sick and needy of our State. Corridors are transit between wards and not for hospital beds!

We need to do better than this. This is modern Perth, not some poor wretched country of the Middle East.

Our leader still sits on a huge amount of taxpayers' money,



Roger Cook

but only seems to eke it out for non-essential projects.

As our State's leader, Cook must do something for those in need of decent hospitalisation and stop telling us the health system in WA is healthy.

Richard Sims, Bull Creek

Address all safety issues

Rita Saffioti states that the WA Cook Government is committed to improving the safety and regulation of e-mobility devices for riders, pedestrians and road users through nation-leading safety changes (*Opinion*, 13/3).

I would like to know when the WA Cook Labor Government is going to do the same for train lighting and visibility.

I am a careful regional motorist. I always wear a seatbelt and comply with speed limits, stop lights and warning signs and signals. I don't drive tired or use my mobile phone while driving.

I am doing everything possible to minimise risk to myself and others on the road.

And yet what is our own Government doing to keep us safe where country roads intersect with poorly lit trains on regional railway lines?

As little as possible it would seem, when I look at the dirty iron ore trains with wagons

completely covered in iron ore dust around my home town of Geraldton that are difficult to see during the day and almost impossible to see at night.

Chantelle Williams, Geraldton

Career's paid him well

Roger Cook has just cooked his goose in trying to explain to the public why he plans to rent his Wellard home when he moves from his electorate to a city apartment (*News*, 10/3).

He stated that he couldn't afford a mortgage by using his Wellard home for weekends, hence him wanting to rent out this property.

Firstly, he and his wife own three properties while he earns over \$400,000, plus multiple benefits, a year. His wife no doubt is on a nice earner at the Art Gallery of WA. Forgive me as tears start welling in my eyes!

Now for the coup de grace. Cook has been an MP for 18 years, which included the deputy role to Mark McGowan for six years and premier when McGowan retired in 2023.

He is likely to receive a similar lifelong indexed pension of around \$250,000 per year.

This pension is not subject to an assets and income test, which ordinary retired Australians need to comply with on an ongoing and regular basis. I've now reached for my handkerchief as the tears have started rolling down my cheeks!

Roger, please spare the public your apparent financial dilemma and hardship and get on with governing our State — or just simply resign and ride into the sunset to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle that awaits you.

Bruce Strang, Jolimont