Put health system fix be

The people of WA by now must be frustrated, annoyed and angry with the State Government for not addressing the problems facing our health system.

They must now come out and openly state that health takes top priority in all their expenditure and capital works program. Projects such as Burswood development, Supercars racing, new rugby team and other sports-related items must be put on the backburner. Not only are these projects a distraction, but drain the resources we have which need to be spent on health.

I suggest a special task force be formed so as to focus on hospital and health facilities. Their task will be to fast-track all health projects and bring the so-called "world class" health system to fruition within two years. Emphasis be given to upgrade existing emergency and additional beds, recruitment of qualified personnel to staff these improvements such as doctors, nurses and caregivers.

Premier Roger Cook and Health Minister Meredith Hammat seem to be under an illusion that our system is good and comparable with other States. The reality as evidenced by the various experiences of people caught in problems often exposing glaring weaknesses must be taken seriously and not just given lip-service.

I hope the State Government listens to medical experts, doctors, nurses and takes action before more lives are put at risk. We trumpet to the world our enormous wealth in mining and natural resources. Let's put all this wealth to where it is needed most. The health system. Is this too much to ask of the State Government with a thumping majority in both Houses of Parliament?

I say again health is wealth, so let's do the heavy lifting now.

Chris Krishnan, Madeley

Ambulances wait outside SCGH.

More than mining

Am I alone in thinking that it's time for the WA Liberals to cease insisting that the WA economy is robust only because of the mining industry and that Labor is failing the WA population?

Those who seek out facts, rather than listen to hyperbolic negativity, know that the latest report from the CommSec State of the States establishes WA has led the Australian economic rankings for the fourth consecutive quarter, making it the top-performing State in the country.

Economic indicators show WA leads the country in retail trade, housing finance and business investment and contributes significantly to national exports.

The report also acknowledges a strong increase of 3.4 per cent in the State's growth rate and the creation of 52,000 jobs. Furthermore, compared with other States and despite a growing population, WA has the lowest unemployment rate on the country.

Add to this the recent news that Labor has sealed a contract with Japanese company Mitsubishi Heavy Industries to design frigates to be constructed in the near future in WA.

This will add to our defence capability and further diversify industry and economic infrastructure.

So, while WA may be