

MARGARET RIVER HOSPITAL

**1364. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:**

- (1) While the \$2.95 million upgrade to the Margaret River Hospital, which was committed four budgets ago, has still not occurred, is the minister aware that in the meantime -
  - (a) facilities in the accident and emergency and x-ray sections are totally inadequate;
  - (b) there are no mortuary facilities;
  - (c) conditions in the operating theatre are substandard;
  - (d) there are problems involving privacy and occupational health and safety in several sections of the hospital;
  - (e) the physiotherapy room is often required for other purposes, disrupting patient treatment; and
  - (f) storage facilities are totally inadequate?
- (2) When will the \$2.95 million finally be spent and the eagerly anticipated, long overdue upgrade take place?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

- (1)-(2) Expenditure will commence in the current financial year on upgrading the hospital. The upgrade is expected to be completed in mid-2005. While the hospital does not have optimum physical facilities, patient care is not compromised and will improve on completion of the upgrade.