

FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE — AMBULANCE FEES

291. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence:

I have a supplementary question. Can I take it from the minister's answer that she has not lobbied the Premier; Treasurer to guarantee that victims of domestic violence will not be left with \$1 000 bills if they are forced to call an ambulance as a result of domestic violence?

Ms S.F. McGURK replied:

I outlined in question time this week that since the current shadow Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence has taken office, we have had one press release from her. There is a lot to do. There is no doubt about it. In the health system, we have the North Metropolitan Health Service, which has its own framework for dealing with domestic violence both in terms of being a high employer of women in their service —

Ms M.J. Davies interjected.

Ms S.F. McGURK: I know you might not be interested in some of the detail of what we are doing, but it is actually quite comprehensive. We have one of the bigger health services with its own framework dealing not only with its own staff, but also with patients. All maternity patients coming through the public health system are screened for domestic violence. There is a lot to do, member, and \$150 million of new spending and a strategy to start to work through that is not something to be ignored. Yes, there is a lot to do to look at preventing domestic violence and responding to domestic violence.

Ms M.J. Davies interjected.

Ms S.F. McGURK: I am really not of a mind to take a lecture from the opposition on how we should prioritise our spending.