

MIDLAND PUBLIC HOSPITAL

**456. Mr F.A. ALBAN to the Minister for Health:**

Before I ask my question, I acknowledge on behalf of the member for Joondalup the year 6 student leaders from Connolly Primary School.

I understand that there was recently a significant milestone in the development of the new Midland Public Hospital. Can the minister please update the house on the progress of the new facility?

**Dr K.D. HAMES replied:**

I was delighted to be out there in Midland last Thursday for the handing over of the key symbolising the completion of the construction of the new Midland Public Hospital. I was very glad to have with me my parliamentary secretary, Hon Alyssa Hayden, and Hon Donna Faragher, and, of course, as the local member for Midland, Hon Michelle Roberts. It is a fantastic building; the construction has been exemplary, on time and on budget, and I am sure that the whole of Midland is very much looking forward to the hospital opening. It was good to see the member for Midland so strongly supportive; in fact, I do not think there was a picture taken of me that did not have her in it!

Several members interjected.

**Dr K.D. HAMES:** Some good nodding going on!

Members will remember that this is a \$360 million hospital, of which \$180 million was provided by the state government and \$180 million by the commonwealth government. It will provide 307 public beds and an additional 60 private beds, under the management of St John of God Health Care.

**Mr D.J. Kelly:** Have you resolved the issue of the clinic down the road yet?

**Dr K.D. HAMES:** Yes, that is resolved and some refurbishment work is currently being done for those services. That will be provided when the hospital is expected to open in November, so that is an approximately five-month commissioning period.

We are very excited about the new hospital; it is great for the community and, as I said to the media when I was there, it will be as though, when someone gets ill, they can get the care offered by a private hospital but at no cost. This is a great boon for the people of Midland and, as I am sure the member for Midland will agree, the whole region is very much looking forward to the opening of the hospital in November.