

MARGARET RIVER DISTRICT HOSPITAL PODIATRY SERVICE

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

- (1) Why has the podiatry service at the Margaret River District Hospital, which has operated for many years, been suddenly cut?
- (2) What alternative arrangements have been made to provide a service to the many people from the community who regularly used the service at the hospital?

Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich: He has put his foot in it again!

Hon BARRY HOUSE: Many people in that community do not find it quite as funny as the minister.

Hon Nick Griffiths: They think you are funny!

Hon BARRY HOUSE: Do they? The minister would not even know where the hospital was. I will give him a road map to find out one day. I continue my question.

- (3) What is the cost saving of this decision and where are the funds being alternatively allocated within the South West Area Health Service?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The podiatry services at the Margaret River District Hospital have not been cut.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order, members! I am sure that the parliamentary secretary does not need that level of assistance.

Hon SUE ELLERY: Thank you, Mr President -

Hon Ken Travers interjected.

The PRESIDENT: I thank the parliamentary secretary but he does do not have the call.

Hon SUE ELLERY: A private podiatrist took a unilateral decision about service provision. That decision has now been reversed.

- (2)-(3) Not applicable.