

WATER CORPORATION — WATER RATES

**450. Mr D.J. KELLY to the Treasurer:**

I have a supplementary question. Is the Treasurer sure that the water dividend contribution to the surplus will be less than one per cent? The budget papers state that in 2017–18 the contribution will be closer to 40 per cent, and in 2018–19 it will be closer to 20 per cent.

**Dr M.D. NAHAN replied:**

I am glad the member for Bassendean is not the shadow Treasurer. I am actually glad that he is the shadow spokesman for water, because he does not know what he is talking about. Whinge, whinge, whinge! To say that the Water Corp's dividend to us in 2018–19 will make up 40 per cent of a forecast \$2.2 billion surplus is ridiculous. The member might just whinge about that. Members will notice how the member shifted from price rises to dividends.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Forrestfield and member for Bassendean! Right, a quick answer, please.

**Dr M.D. NAHAN:** The member's first question was related to price rises and then he shifted to dividends. He obviously does not know the difference between those either. I assure members and I guarantee that the dividend from the water authority—especially the increase—will not get anywhere near 40 per cent of our surplus in 2018–19.