

LEUKAEMIA FOUNDATION, SHORT-TERM ACCOMMODATION UNITS FOR COUNTRY PATIENTS

392. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Housing and Works:

The background to this question is that the Department of Housing and Works has agreed to enter into a joint venture arrangement with the Leukaemia Foundation Western Australia for the construction of short-term accommodation units for country patients undergoing treatment in Perth for leukaemia and other blood-related cancers on government-owned land in Bedbrook Place, Shenton Park. The Leukaemia Foundation has indicated that it needs 22 units built on two blocks of land in order to satisfy the current levels of patient demand for such accommodation. I ask -

- (1) Why has the Department of Housing and Works offered only one block of land and a 10-unit complex to the Leukaemia Foundation, as opposed to the two available vacant adjoining blocks of land in Bedbrook Place upon which the requested 22-unit complex may be constructed?
- (2) Has the Department of Housing and Works promised the adjoining block of land to that which has been offered to the Leukaemia Foundation to another disability project; and if so, which project?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) There is a commitment to construct up to 12 units on a lot in Bedbrook Place, Shenton Park, in a joint venture arrangement with the Leukaemia Foundation. The project is still subject to planning approval. The adjoining lot is reserved for a future disability project. Other budget commitments preclude further funding allocations at this stage.
- (2) No.