

PERTH CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL — LEAD CONTAMINATION

**663. Mr D.J. KELLY to the Minister for Water:**

How to follow that?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I am getting the wall of noise.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** I refer to the issue of lead contamination at the new Perth Children's Hospital.

- (1) Is it still the minister's view that the source of lead is not from the water supplied to the hospital?
- (2) Does the minister still maintain, as she did on 6 September, that it is not an issue for the Water Corporation or the Department of Water?

**Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:**

- (1)–(2) Yes, I do maintain that it is not an issue for the Water Corporation. The Water Corporation does not directly supply the Perth Children's Hospital site. It supplies water to the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre site, and my understanding is that the water is then on-supplied by John Holland to the Perth Children's Hospital site. No lead has been detected in the Mount Eliza zone, or from the entire integrated water supply scheme, which supplies around 290 billion litres of water, in the past 15 years. We have tested the water supply. We have brought forward the testing regime that we do regularly to ensure that we could give that guarantee. The water has been tested by the Water Corporation, and we are currently working with John Holland to identify the issue. I understand that Water Corporation expertise is being used at the site. I can give an assurance to the community that there is continuous testing of our water supply, at all points along the supply zone, before it comes out of the tap. There is no issue with our water supply. Water is supplied to the QEII site and then on-supplied to the Perth Children's Hospital site. There may well be issues within the internal structures of Perth Children's Hospital, but I am not aware of those. From a Water Corporation perspective, I am confident that my previous answer was correct.