

PAYROLL TAX

95. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Is the Premier today ruling out any change to the payroll tax eligibility threshold before the next election?

Mr D.J. Kelly interjected.

The SPEAKER: Minister for Water, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

There are two more budgets before the next state election so, obviously, all those issues will be dealt with, but I think Western Australians can have confidence that they have a mature and sensible government that is focused on good financial management. I meet lots of businesspeople. Although businesspeople would like to see payroll tax relief, as they would like to see land tax and stamp duty relief, they understand—this is a very common sentiment expressed to me—that the legacy we were left with was a very, very poor one and will take a long time to resolve. The idea that somehow we can resolve \$40 billion of Liberal–National debt overnight is fanciful. From listening and watching the Liberals and Nationals, I learnt today, and I continue to learn, that they have learnt nothing in their two years in opposition. I think the people of Western Australia understand that they are still unfit for office and will be unfit to be re-elected to office at the next election.