

BUNBURY REGIONAL HOSPITAL, BUDGETARY CRISIS

760. Mr BOARD to the Minister for Health:

Do not standing orders require the minister's answer to be relevant to the question asked? What is the minister going to do about the cancellation of elective surgery for patients who have been waiting and the fact that only \$7 000 is required to purchase a replacement electrocardiograph machine? The Lions Club is rattling collection tins to try to get the money.

The SPEAKER: As I see it, the question relates to elective surgery. I ask the minister to answer that part of the question.

Mr KUCERA replied:

Procedures apply to all cancellations of surgery in this State and they are handled by the Central Wait List Bureau. I visited the bureau this morning. These are operational issues for the hospital. Through the Department of Health we are quite happy to discuss such operational issues. Money is in the budget for all these issues. I believe I have already answered this question.