Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 22 June 2004] p4027b-4027b

Ms Sue Walker; Speaker; Mrs Cheryl Edwardes; Mr Colin Barnett

ESCAPE FROM SUPREME COURT, HOOKER INQUIRY

368. Ms S.E. WALKER to the Minister for Justice:

As a supplementary question, which section in which of those two Acts gives Mr Hooker the power to compel the minister to produce documents or give evidence?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: In my view, the previous question was borderline in seeking a legal view. However, the supplementary question in fact crosses that boundary.

Point of Order

Mrs C.L. EDWARDES: The question asks the minister something that she would have known when she set the terms of reference and established this inquiry over the past few days and does not ask the minister to provide legal advice.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: This is not a matter of a legal opinion. Clearly, this is a matter of the member for Nedlands asking the Minister for Justice under which section in which Act she believes those powers apply. The question refers to an Act of Parliament; it does not ask for a legal opinion.

The SPEAKER: I have already ruled on the question.