

COUNTRY HOSPITAL BOARDS

457. Mr BRADSHAW to the Minister for Health:

As a supplementary question, when the minister says that the role of boards in the country will be improved, is he talking about localised country boards or about a different form of board?

Mr KUCERA replied:

I would not presume to say what decisions the people in the country will make about that structure. It will be their structure. I expect the consultation to take into account what country and rural people say. At the end of the day, their voice needs to be heard; their voice needs to be at the corporate table. I expect the outcome of that consultation to be included in the way that the new system of supplying health in rural areas is constructed.