

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING — FREMANTLE RELOCATION

654. Ms S.F. McGURK to the Minister for Finance:

I refer to the announcement of Fremantle Hospital's reconfiguration and the loss of 1 900 jobs from the Fremantle CBD. Will the government now honour its 2012 commitment to relocate the Department of Housing and therefore some 1 000 jobs to Fremantle?

Mr D.C. NALDER replied:

As I have said in the past, this government remains committed to the decentralisation of offices to outlying regions and our commitment towards Fremantle. As I have also stated previously, there has been a real softening of the CBD market in Perth that is making it more difficult to justify such a move. However, we remain committed to continuing to work through and analyse —

Mr M. McGowan: You're breaking your word.

Mr D.C. NALDER: I beg your pardon?

Mr M. McGowan: You're breaking your word. The government's breaking its word.

The SPEAKER: Members! Through the Chair, please.

Mr D.C. NALDER: The changes in the financial position and the softening have made it difficult. The department is currently undertaking analysis to identify agencies that could relocate to the Fremantle market at this point.