

ARMADALE–KELMSCOTT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL — REDEVELOPMENT

575. Dr A.D. BUTI to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the \$15.4 million redevelopment of the Armadale–Kelmscott Memorial Hospital and the minister's decision to defer this redevelopment beyond the next election.

- (1) Why has the minister delayed this redevelopment of the Armadale–Kelmscott hospital yet again?
- (2) Does the minister agree with the clinical services framework that claims that the current configuration of the hospital is adequate?
- (3) Is this not just a clear indication that the Armadale–Kelmscott hospital is a hospital that the Barnett government forgot?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

- (1)–(3) Absolutely not. There is no way that the Armadale–Kelmscott Memorial Hospital has been forgotten. There is no way that anything has been deferred for Armadale because it was clearly identified for the next phase of development in the clinical services framework. I have made it very clear in statements to this house that the upgrade of Armadale—plus we need to do something in the northern suburbs around Joondalup and other areas—is an area that this government is committed to proceeding with. The Armadale hospital is adequate at present but will not continue to be so for very much longer because of growth demands for that area. I know the member for Armadale is trying to be a good member and be fired up, but the reality is that we are right behind it: we are right behind developing the hospital in the member for Armadale's area. We have not put anything off. It needs to be done.

Mr R.H. Cook: You have! You have done it in two successive budgets.

Dr K.D. HAMES: No. I think the member needs to go back and look at the clinical services framework put out by his government—and the timing. The framework showed that members opposite were going to have Fiona Stanley Hospital in 2010, then it was 2011, then it was 2012 and then it was 2013.

Several members interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: No. Under the government of members opposite, Fiona Stanley Hospital was put back four years in a row. Under the framework of members opposite, the second phase of Fiona Stanley was coming —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Excuse me. Can you get back to his hospital? Thank you.

Dr K.D. HAMES: They were interjecting about that hospital.

The clinical services framework that has just been done is an assessment by the health department of what the current demand figures show is required, and the timetable for that. It clearly shows the timetable that is now required for Armadale hospital. Previous earlier frameworks might have suggested that it was needed earlier, but the facts have not proven that. The facts have proven that it is now required—or even if not now, it will be required in the time frame it will take us to do something. So we will be perfectly threading into the time frame, unlike members opposite when they were four years late doing Fiona Stanley, which is why we had such huge blowouts and ramping in other areas.