

ROYAL PERTH HOSPITAL — REDEVELOPMENT

264. Mr R.H. COOK to the Minister for Health:

I ask a supplementary question. I repeat that the Premier has said that the forward estimates do not matter and that we should not trust them. Given the slipping and sliding the minister is doing on this issue, why should we trust him now when he says that sometime just before the next election in 2017 he might look at spending some money on redeveloping this hospital?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

We said neither of those two things. Firstly, it is not what the Premier said. The Premier said that this year's budget is the budget. The forward estimates are just that: they are estimates and they are determined on the year of provision of the budget. Secondly, the reason that opposition members can trust what I say is because I have not gone against what I have said before. We are strongly committed to the redevelopment of Royal Perth Hospital. Opposition members will see that occur in the future. All they have to do is ask the member for Albany whether this government meets its commitments? The clear answer is yes. Did the former Labor government meet its commitments after eight years of promises? The clear answer is no.

Question without Notice 252 — Tabling of Paper

The SPEAKER: That concludes question time. I did indicate that at the end of question time I would provide an answer to the house with respect to the documents that the Premier had. I have had a good look at those documents. They are printed documents. They are hand-typed documents. They are certainly not an official document. But I am going to table those in this house today.

[See paper 4843.]

Point of Order

Mr M.P. MURRAY: Mr Speaker, thank you for your ruling on a point of order before. I would like to know what constitutes a newspaper.

The SPEAKER: Member for Collie–Preston, I did not make a ruling on a point of order. I was simply responding to the Leader of the House's point of order, and I did indicate both to you and the member sitting next to you, the member for Cockburn, that it possibly was a newspaper. I cannot tell which newspaper it is, and I am not particularly concerned. I thought that it might be something that one of you was going to use in a question that you were going to ask in this place. I did not have a problem with that, member for Collie–Preston.

Mr M.P. MURRAY: Thank you for that, Mr Speaker. Your clarity is clear.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members, before I give the call to the member for Cannington, I know that the document that I referred to, which came from the Premier, is probably back with the Premier by this stage, so it needs to go to the Assembly staff so that it can be appropriately tabled.