

TOM PRICE DISTRICT HOSPITAL — REDEVELOPMENT

737. Ms M. BEARD to the Minister for Health:

I have a supplementary question. Is the cost escalation also preventing the progress of the redevelopment?

Ms A. SANDERSON replied:

Cost escalation is a reality for every single construction project. That is an obvious point. I just outlined that. Cost escalation has occurred across every single construction project, not just for government. That is one factor, but there are a number of factors. Cost escalation will not prevent the project from going forward. We are looking at how we manage the cost escalation and get best value for money for taxpayers as well as deliver the hospital. Of course it is a factor, but it is not the only factor. As I outlined, we are working through land tenure issues with the Shire of Ashburton.