

BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE — MEETING

328. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Will the Premier make all the outcomes of that meeting public to ensure that he can be held accountable for those promises that he has made?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

That is a very odd question. The government will continue to reform the system and invest in the things that I mentioned before. In this context, I would like to acknowledge the staff who work there because I do not think they get enough acknowledgement. I want to continue to acknowledge the staff who go to work in a difficult environment, where they are often subject to considerable stress and sometimes violence. I thank them for all their actions. As I said the other day, they go into this environment with altruistic motives. They want to make sure that they provide an environment in which the detainees have an opportunity to turn their lives around. I do not think they should receive abuse or criticism. I have seen some commentary in which they do from people who would never dream of working in that environment. All I would say is that I think we need to thank those people who work in that environment—the first responders and all those people who do what is required to keep us safe.