

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING MACHINE FOR FREMANTLE HOSPITAL

1163. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Did the Court Government set aside \$1.9 million, or any other amount, as was promised to purchase a magnetic resonance imaging machine for Fremantle Hospital?
- (2) If so, what happened to that money?
- (3) Will the Minister for Health provide funding for an MRI machine at Fremantle Hospital even if the federal Government does not provide a licence?
- (4) Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out on the provision of an MRI at Fremantle Hospital to determine if it would be of economic benefit to the hospital, with or without a licence?
- (5) If not, why not?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The previous Government allocated \$2 million in capital funding for an MRI at Fremantle Hospital.
- (2) This money remains available within the health department's capital funding program.
- (3) The Department of Health is conducting further work and analysis on the provision of public hospital MRI services, including those at Fremantle Hospital. Final decisions remain contingent on commonwealth MRI licensing arrangements.
- (4) No.
- (5) The further work referred to in answer to question (3) will address this issue.