

LAVERTON HOSPITAL

**540. Hon NEIL THOMSON to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:**

I refer to the Laverton hospital replacement/rebuild development, which has been ongoing for some time.

- (1) What is the status of the proposed hospital build?
- (2) If actual construction has not commenced, when will it commence?
- (3) Will the minister commit to improving consultation to keep the community informed?
- (4) If yes to (3), what form will that take?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

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

- (1) There is currently an allocation of \$23.5 million for the new Laverton hospital project, of which \$16.8 million has been allocated by the commonwealth government via the commonwealth's Community Health and Hospitals Program. Due to current building market conditions, there is a significant shortfall in funding. The WA Country Health Service is working with the Department of Health to develop a funding strategy and approach in seeking the additional funding required to enable the project to be released to the market.
- (2) Construction commencement is not yet known, pending resolution of the funding strategy.
- (3)–(4) Full consultation and community engagement is pending resolution of the funding strategy. However, I understand that the WA Country Health Service provides a monthly update on progress to the Shire of Laverton chief executive officer and that it is also in communication with the Pakaanu Aboriginal Corporation in Laverton about the management of Aboriginal heritage on the proposed construction site. Once the funding strategy is confirmed, additional forms of communication will be utilised including signboards, community updates and site visits.