

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL


C518

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE (Of which some notice has been given)

Tuesday, 6 May 2014

Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health

I refer to the Minister for Health's media statement of 30 July 2011 stating that Serco's contract for Fiona Stanley Hospital included "health records management," and I ask:

1. Was health records management part of the contract with Serco?
 2. If no to (1):
 - a. why did the Minister's media statement say that it was;
 - b. Will the Minister apologise for the misleading statement in his media statement and if not why not?
 3. If yes to (1);
 - a. Has the contract now been renegotiated;
 - b. How much did or will it cost the Government change the contract conditions?
 4. Has Serco approached the Government to recover recruitment and other costs associated with the appointment of staff for the roles they will no longer be responsible for?
 5. If yes to (4), what is the value of Serco's claim?
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I thank the Member for some notice of this question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Health.

1. Yes health records management was in the original contract. However both the delivery methodology and costing of this service line was less developed than most other service lines in the original contract at the time of contract execution. The State always had the ability to deliver the service itself and this is what it has chosen to do.
2. Not applicable.
3. a) No.

3. b) The contract conditions are not being changed. Rather an existing mechanism within the contract (namely Variation) is being employed to decrease the scope of Serco's obligations under the contract by removing health records management from Serco's responsibility. Costs have not been determined at this stage but are expected to be minimal.
4. No.
5. Not applicable.