

FIONA STANLEY HOSPITAL — IT OUTAGE

360. Ms L. METTAM to the Premier.

I have a supplementary question. How can Western Australians trust the Premier to run the state when he could not even run the health portfolio?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please, members!

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

I obviously reject the premise of the question. The people of Western Australia understand who delivers best when it comes to health care in Western Australia, and it is always a Labor government. I observe that since coming to office, we have increased WA Health's annual budget by 33.4 per cent—by \$10 billion in the last three years alone. In the last two years, we have added 547 new beds to the system, which is the equivalent of a tertiary hospital. There has been a significant level of investment in our healthcare system. All healthcare systems around the world are struggling to cope in this post-COVID period, but we, more than anyone, can do two things. The first is that our healthcare system is responding, and we have some good results as a result of that response. The second is that we have a government that protects the state's finances so that we can invest at the time that we need to to make sure that we can support, as best we can, the system and the doctors and nurses who work in it.

The SPEAKER: That concludes question time.