

WATER CORPORATION — FEES AND CHARGES

453. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Is the Premier's refusal to return the water tax because he does not care about the struggling families in Darling Range and he is more focused —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! Start the question again.

Dr D.J. HONEY: Is the Premier's refusal to return the water tax because he does not care about the struggling families in Darling Range and he is more focused on funding his \$5 billion of unfunded election commitments?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

That question is up there with the National Party's questions for ridiculousness. The fact of the matter is that in the budget, as the Treasurer just reminded me, we actually put up water charges by less than did the forward estimates from the former government. What we have done is ensure that those people who use excessive amounts of water will pay more, so that we can increase the price for everyone else by less.

It is a bit unusual that the member Cottesloe would be in here attacking the way the Water Corporation and water pricing was managed by his predecessor, the former member for Cottesloe and former Premier. The good thing for the people of Darling Range is we care about people in the outer urban areas. We want to make sure they have decent standards, decent jobs and decent services. The Liberal Party has no interest.

The SPEAKER: That is the end of question time.