

CHURCHILL PARK GUEST HOUSE

916. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer again to the purchase of the Churchill Park Guest House in Busselton.

- (1) Is the minister aware that the building report by Houspect in March 2012 included on page 1 —
Homes built prior to 1983 may contain asbestos.

On page 6 —

The inspector need not inspect or report on the ...

...

... presence of asbestos, ...

And, on page 24 —

We will not (even if requested to do so) provide you any advice regarding asbestos ... However, if we identify that a building material is made from asbestos, we may ... mention this to you so that you can then have this view confirmed by someone appropriately qualified to advise you about (a) whether the material is made from asbestos and (b) how to deal with it. If we provide you such advice, then you must not accept or rely upon our view as being in any way determinative and you agree that it is stated to you so that you then will engage someone appropriately qualified to advise you on the presence of asbestos and related matters, and not act on or rely upon our view in any other way.

- (2) Did the Department of Housing or any government agency engage a qualified person to advise on the presence of asbestos and how to deal with it before the property was purchased by the government?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) If yes to (2), will the minister table the report?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No.
- (3) The department does not generally request full asbestos reports on properties prior to settlement. Although it is acknowledged that the property contained asbestos, the site was purchased on the basis of the independent valuation that showed that the purchase price represented only the land value.
- (4) Not applicable.