

JUVENILE DETAINEES — HAKEA PRISON

39. Mr P. PAPALIA to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I have a supplementary question. Noting that the provisional improvement notices with regard to asbestos expire on 21 May and that juveniles are not due to move back to Banksia Hill until July, what is the minister's plan to deal with the asbestos that has been deemed unstable?

Mr J.M. FRANCIS replied:

When the member for Warnbro said that juveniles may be returned, what date did he say?

Mr P. Papalia: I was told yesterday by the minister's department that it would be prepared to start moving them in June and it will not be until July that they are back there.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: I will say: watch this space. The member may be surprised as to when juveniles may be ready to be relocated back to Banksia Hill. Let me make this point perfectly clear: as I said last week, the government's priority, and mine, will always be the protection of the community and also for —

Mr P. Papalia: What about the health of the prison officers?

Mr F.M. Logan: What about the unstable asbestos? You have a duty of care as the minister!

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: Shut up and let me finish!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I do not think that was the best interjection. Members, please, on both sides. Minister, can you finish, please.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: My priority is to look after the safety of the people who work in the prison system.

Mr F.M. Logan: And the prison officers as well. That is your responsibility as the minister.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: You know what—prison officers work in the prison system. That is who I am talking about, and that will be taken into consideration when the relocation happens.