

SOUTH HEDLAND AND PUNDULMURRA TAFE CAMPUSES — BUILDING MOULD

1026. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development:

I refer to the answer to question without notice 975, asked on Thursday, 3 November 2011.

- (1) Apart from the five claims given in the minister's answer, have any new workers' compensation claims, hazard or incident reports been received by the occupational health and safety management relating to the mould outbreak and remediation during October and November 2011; and, if so, how many, and what is the nature of those claims?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that three of the five claims are related to the respiratory system; and, if so, does this warrant immediate and closer investigation?
- (3) Why did testing by PureProtect in June, July and August 2011 not provide a breakdown of fungus types or test for aspergillus, when two strains of this fungus were identified in the March 2011 testing by Mycologia?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Pilbara Institute has advised that four incident reports were received in October and November. The three reports relate to respiratory symptoms as a result of alleged exposure, and one report relates to alleged exposure to the face and eyes of remediation chemicals. There have been no new workers' compensation claims.
- (2) Pilbara Institute has advised that four of the five claims relate to the respiratory system. The institute is investigating these complaints as part of its occupational health and safety management procedure and taking all necessary actions. The claims are also being assessed by RiskCover.
- (3) There is no requirement for reports to be broken down in the manner described. When any serious findings are made, these are communicated in the report by PureProtect.