

HEIDI-MAY HONESS — PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

274. Hon SIMON O'BRIEN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

I will jump into the breach, Madam President!

I refer to the case of Heidi-May Honess, whose situation I brought to the attention of the house recently.

- (1) Has the minister or anyone acting on his behalf contacted the Honess family to check how they are going?
- (2) Is it the case that a number of children's surgical procedures scheduled to take place at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children in the near future have now been cancelled or deferred for cost-cutting reasons or some other reason?

Hon ALANNA CLOHESY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The Department of Health provided the following response.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Princess Margaret Hospital for Children can advise that surgical procedures have not been cancelled or deferred for cost-cutting reasons. In some circumstances, elective surgery may be cancelled or deferred due to unscheduled emergency surgery for sick children being admitted. Surgery is scheduled according to clinical triage and risk of all children.