

CHURCHILL PARK GUEST HOUSE

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

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

- (1) Is the minister aware that the valuation report by Herron Todd White in October 2011 included the following —

**6.7 Asbestos Materials Report**

We are advised that an “Asbestos Materials Report” has not been prepared. We note there are some building materials used in the construction of these improvements that may contain asbestos. Please note we are not qualified to conclusively determine the existence of asbestos and recommend you satisfy yourself in this regard. The presence of asbestos, change in community attitudes and the costs associated with dealing with its removal has the potential to reduce future marketability and value of the property. The extent of this can’t be known.

- (2) Did the Department of Housing or any government agency prepare or commission an asbestos materials report before the property was purchased by the government?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) If so, will the minister table the report?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Housing —

- (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, which showed that the purchase price represented the land value only.
- (4) Not applicable.