

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES — BILL PAYMENT

232. Ms L.L. BAKER to the Minister for Small Business:

I have a supplementary question. The Minister for Small Business is saying that the 30 per cent of bills paid late is slowly getting less. The time that the minister spends in this portfolio seems to be suffering because of the chaos that is in corrective services. How long will it take the minister to do what he said he would do and get small businesses paid effectively?

Mr J.M. FRANCIS replied:

Members opposite call it chaos in the Department of Corrective Services—I am so glad that the member asked me that supplementary question—we call it reform! Members opposite can call it whatever they like, but everyone else in Western Australia—everyone out there where members opposite are rubbernecking—knows that the Department of Corrective Services is long overdue for the reform that the opposition would never have the courage to stand up and do.