

SOUTH HEDLAND AND PUNDULMURRA TAFE CAMPUSES — BUILDING MOULD

**994. 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. By the way, the minister still owes me an answer to question 975(4).

- (1) Why does the Pilbara Institute continue to use rooms when tests by PureProtect have found the rooms to have a high level of airborne bacteria and fungi, and reports from staff and students of rhinitis, sinusitis and flu-like symptoms continue to occur?
- (2) Are there any pending mycology investigations as a result of the use of those rooms?
- (3) What has prevented the Pilbara Institute from quickly and effectively dealing with the mould outbreak, given that the South Hedland Police Station was evacuated, remediated and back in use with humidifiers and air monitors a few weeks after identifying a mould outbreak in March 2011?
- (4) Why, when the library was closed recently and remediated, was the area directly above and sharing common air conditioning not remediated concurrently to avoid recontamination?

**Hon PETER COLLIER replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I missed the preamble, but I will give what I have got. Was there an additional question?

**Hon Helen Bullock:** You should remember—you promised.

**Hon PETER COLLIER:** The preamble is not on here, and I do not know what that is all about.

**Hon Helen Bullock:** You said you would give it to me.

**Hon PETER COLLIER:** I will give the member the response to the question she has asked. If it does not answer her question, she can —

**Hon Helen Bullock:** I referred to last Thursday's question 975.

**Hon PETER COLLIER:** So that is the preamble?

**Hon Helen Bullock:** That is not the preamble; that is what you promised you would provide.

**Hon PETER COLLIER:** Okey-doke.

- (1) The Pilbara Institute has advised that rooms are used only when the mould readings fall within accepted levels according to the World Health Organization standards.
- (2) No.
- (3) I cannot comment on the processes used by South Hedland Police Station. The processes by the Pilbara Institute meet the requirements of the Department of Health, Building Management and Works and WorkSafe.
- (4) The Pilbara Institute has advised that the area above the library was tested and found to be well within the WHO acceptable standards; therefore, no action was required. Further testing on all areas not previously remediated will be completed over the coming weekend and remediation will be scheduled for any areas found to be outside acceptable levels.