

ASBESTOS WATER MAINS

317. Hon SAMANTHA ROWE to the minister representing the Minister for Water:

My question is with regard to asbestos water mains.

- (1) How many kilometres of asbestos water mains are still in service across Western Australia?
- (2) What is the location of the asbestos water mains?
- (3) Does the minister have any concern about the safety of the water running through the asbestos mains?
- (4) Does the government intend to replace the asbestos water mains; and, if so, when?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Water, the answers are —

- (1) The Water Corporation has 10 415 kilometres of asbestos cement water mains statewide.
- (2) The locations are Perth, goldfields and agricultural, great southern, midwest, north west and south west.
- (3) No.
- (4) The Water Corporation has a program of water mains replacement of all materials based on the condition, performance and impact to customers. There are currently no plans for a replacement program targeted specifically towards asbestos cement water mains.