

MT MAGNET NURSING POST - PROPOSED RENOVATION

**115. Hon KEN BASTON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:**

I refer to the proposed renovation of the Mt Magnet nursing post.

- (1) Has the tendering process been completed; and, if not, why not?
- (2) If the tendering process has been completed -
  - (a) who is the successful tenderer; and
  - (b) when will construction commence, and when is completion anticipated?
- (3) What is the anticipated cost of renovation?
- (4) Given that the next phase will be a replacement building, how does the estimated cost of the renovation compare with the estimated cost of a new building?
- (5) What is the anticipated date for the provision of a new building?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The tendering process has not commenced, as final architectural reports were not received until December 2005, and the reports recommended several interim enhancements to the building to make it more functional. It is anticipated that tenders will be called by mid-May 2006.
- (2)
  - (a) Not applicable.
  - (b) It is anticipated that subject to a successful tender process, construction will commence by July 2006 and will be completed, with the building operational, by the end of October 2006. The nursing post must remain operational during the renovations; therefore, all work will need to be staged.
- (3) The building renovations are estimated to cost approximately \$320 000.
- (4) Early planning for a replacement building will commence in April 2006 with the formation of a local stakeholder group inclusive of the WA Country Health Service, the Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service, the local shire council, the Department for Community Development and the local general medical practice. The cost estimate of a new building will be dependent upon the scope of services to be located in the premises but is anticipated to be approximately \$3 million to \$4 million.
- (5) A new building at Mt Magnet is a candidate for the Department of Health's capital works program but is not funded at present. The renovations to the building will provide an interim solution while the business case for a replacement is developed for Department of Treasury and Finance approval.