CAMP SCHOOLS — FAIRBRIDGE WA

865.   Hon DONNA FARAGHER to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the minister's answer to questions without notice 819 and 842 asked this week relating to camp schools and the proposed commercial lease terms. Given that there are no specific terms or conditions proposed for catering, the types and number of camp activities to be offered, and the pricing of those activities, can the minister give an absolute guarantee that costs incurred by Western Australian schools and families for students to attend camp schools will not increase and that camp-based activities will not be negatively impacted under these new arrangements; and, if not, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the member for the question.

The preface of the question refers to answers to questions that I do not have in front of me right now. I can provide the answer that I can give the member now.

Hon Donna Faragher interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! The minister is trying to provide you with a response to a question that you asked. You might want to listen.

Hon SUE ELLERY: The requirement in the tender process is that the camp school services remain affordable and accessible to school students. This really is a win–win situation. I checked the history of price increases since 2008. I found that in every single year the prices of camp schools went up. In 2010 they went up by something like 5.5 per cent, but over the period that the previous government was in power, the prices at camp schools went up by 21 per cent. Every single year, the prices went up. The commitment given by this government was that the camp schools would remain affordable, and they will.

Hon Donna Faragher: What about camp-based activities? What about those? You won't answer that, will you?

Hon SUE ELLERY: If the member puts the question on notice, she will get an answer.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: The next member might want to sit down until his colleagues quieten down.