

BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE — PREMIER'S MEETING —
PROFESSOR FIONA STANLEY'S COMMENTS

799. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I have a supplementary question. Just for clarity, is the minister seeking legal advice; and, if so, who is paying for that legal advice?

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON replied:

I am a minister, so I have asked the Attorney General to arrange a meeting between me and the State Solicitor's Office. I would be happy to get private legal advice, but these comments were not made about me in my personal capacity; they were made in my capacity as a minister. I will be using exactly the same mechanism that was used by ministers when the Leader of the Opposition was a minister. I have sought a meeting with the SSO, through the Attorney General, which is entirely appropriate. I look forward to whatever they say. It may be that there is no actionable comment by Dr Stanley—I do not know; I am not a lawyer—but I am deeply, deeply offended by the dishonest presentation in that piece, and I will expect an apology from Dr Stanley, because I will not tolerate being verballed in a dishonest fashion like that.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members, that concludes question time.