

STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION

95/2008

15 September 2008

Shadow Minister for Health and Social Services Neil Costa will press Government to expedite the waiting time in respect of the mammography clinic at the meeting of Parliament which starts on Thursday. He will also ask Government to say whether the GHA is now in a position to introduce a routine mammography screening service and if not, what steps has the GHA taken towards establishing this system. Mr Costa has tabled 54 questions for the Government to answer.

The Opposition spokesman has sought confirmation from the Government that the post-holder of the Radiologist position has resigned, and will want to know with effect from what date, what the reason for the resignation was, and the length of time remaining on the contract. Mr Costa will also want Government to say whether the management of the GHA has regular meetings with the professional and administrative staff of the GHA so as to allow employees to air any concerns or grievances, and if so how frequently these meetings take place.

Mr Costa wants Government to describe the mechanism by which the GHA decides which existing medicines, prescribed by doctors to patients under the Medical Group Practice Scheme will no longer be available for prescription under the Scheme. He will

also want the Minister to give the number of formal and informal complaints lodged since April of this year to date.

On other health matters, Mr Costa has tabled a question to establish whether Government have now completed the review of policy funding and an assessment of the capability of the Oxygen treatment centre in Devil's Tower Road. He will want Government to say when they will provide a stand aid hoist for Captain Murchison Ward, which, according to the team objectives set out in the Ward itself, has been requested from the annual estimates for the past 2 years. Mr Costa will also want the Minister for Health to say when hospital users will be able to park at Europlaza.

In relation to his responsibility for Social Services, Neil Costa has also tabled a number of specific questions into what has been done about the allegations of abuse at the Dr Giraldi Home.

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