




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 3 December 2020

MOTION

Amendment to Standing Orders

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (12.40 pm): In responding to the issues raised by the Manager of Opposition Business, I have advised him that the Chief Health Officer will be made available for questions during estimates, pursuant to the standing orders of the House during the session set aside for health—not necessarily for the whole day but for health. Certainly the Chief Health Officer will be there. On each and every occasion the government have stood up publicly and made comments about COVID-19 we have had the Chief Health Officer there and available to directly deal with questions.

In relation to the process, as the Manager of Opposition Business pointed out, the role of the Chief Health Officer does not fall within any of the descriptions under the standing orders and schedule 7. However, the Chief Health Officer will be there and will be able to respond to questions under the standing orders of the House. I will give consideration to the issue raised as far as direct questions are concerned. However, I should point out that no other deputy directors-general will be able to be asked a question directly; it is always through the chair, and that process will continue as it always has. We have every intention of making sure the Chief Health Officer is available and able to respond.