Question on Notice No. 519 Asked on 15 March 2007

MR SPRINGBORG asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

With reference to water fluoridation—

- (1) What progress has been made towards a plebiscite on fluoridation of Warwick's water supply?
- (2) What is the timeframe for further consultations with the council?
- (3) Will the Government contribute to the cost of a fully funded yes/no case for the plebiscite?

ANSWER:

(1)-(2) The timing of the plebiscite will be determined by Warwick Shire Council.

Queensland Health commissioned an independent engineering report on the implementation of water fluoridation in Warwick Shire. This report is currently being considered by Warwick Shire Council.

Warwick Shire Council needs to seek additional advice from the Department of Local Government Planning, Sport and Recreation prior to timelines being clarified.

Queensland Health will provide councillors and the community with evidence based information on the benefits and risks associated with water fluoridation. This information will be available for use by the councillors in their development of the yes/no cases.

(3) While Queensland Health has offered to reimburse the costs associated with undertaking the community poll to the Warwick Shire Council, it will be Council's responsibility to provide funds for the development of the yes/no cases.