It will be business as usual for the Government until Budget is brought down in August, Treasurer Clare Martin told Parliament today.

"The Government will continue to pay sub-contractors, suppliers, not for profit organisations and community groups without interruption," Ms Martin said.

"I want to make that assurance very clear."

The Government's plan to bring down the Budget in August was underpinned by the introduction of a Supply Bill today.

"The Supply Bill, to be passed in June, provides sufficient funds and the legislative authority for normal Government business to continue until the 2002-2003 Appropriation Bill is passed," Ms Martin said.

"August budgets were the normal until only eight years ago and Government expenditure was authorised by supply legislation every year. This is not an unusual situation."

Ms Martin said the Supply Bill provides funds for the first five months of the financial year based on 50% of the 2001-2002 (current year) outlays, adjusted for 2002-2003 special needs.

She said this amounts to an appropriation of $1.6041 billion.

Ms Martin said authority to spend monies under the 2001-2002 Appropriation Act lapses on 30 June 2002.