

TREASURER — ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

Statement

HON MARTIN PRITCHARD (North Metropolitan) [5.20 pm]: I did not get chance to thank members for their contributions earlier today to the debate on my motion. I do so now. I also did not get the chance to acknowledge that the Treasurer's good work did not occur in a vacuum. The high level of royalties, which cannot be attributed to the Treasurer, and the GST fix, which can be attributed to the hard work of the Treasurer, have also assisted in the recovery of the economy in Western Australia. However, the focus of my contribution was the reining in of the recurrent spending of the government, taking it from around 6.4 per cent per annum to around two per cent per annum in just over two years. I think that is a herculean effort. If any member can explain to me how improved revenue streams achieved that outcome, I will be open to accept criticism of the motivation behind the motion I moved this morning. I also reject any assertion that my motion was not factual in every way. I will accept, however, that due to time constraints, we cannot always put all sides of the argument.