

MONASH AVENUE, NEDLANDS — BUSHLAND CLEARANCE

62. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the clearing of bushland in Monash Avenue, Nedlands on the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre site at the end of last year.

- (1) Did the minister withdraw from the decision and request an acting minister to consider the clearing application and the associated report of the Appeals Convenor?
- (2) If so, why?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) I refer the honourable member to my answer to question without notice 504 asked by Hon Giz Watson on 29 June 2011.

In summary, although the minister did not believe that an actual conflict of interest existed, for an abundance of caution the minister initiated action in case a perception of conflict of interest arose should he determine the appeals. This perception may have arisen given his previous involvement in the proposal in his former capacity as minister assisting the Treasurer responsible for major state works.