

MARINE FINFISH NURSERY — GERALDTON

578. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the government's commitment to build a "Geraldton-based finfish nursery as part of its push to expedite investment in the Midwest Aquaculture Zone".

- (1) Is the government still committed to building the facility in Geraldton?
- (2) Has the government investigated other locations for this facility; and, if so, please provide details regarding —
 - (a) when those investigations commenced;
 - (b) what locations have been investigated;
 - (c) the expected costs; and
 - (d) whether those investigations have involved third parties or commercial entities?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Fisheries.

- (1) Yes, subject to commitment from industry.
- (2) Yes, as part of the business case for the Geraldton aquaculture nursery.
 - (a) It was in 2018.
 - (b) The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's Fremantle hatchery.
 - (c) The Fremantle option was not viable and not costed.
 - (d) No.