

AUSTRALIAN BIOME PROJECT

1153. Hon COLIN TINCKNELL to the minister representing the Minister for Tourism:

I refer to yesterday's report in *The West Australian* regarding three giant bio-domes to be built near Perth Airport.

- (1) Can the minister please inform me of the extent of the government's involvement in this initiative, or is this being pursued entirely by private enterprise?
- (2) What will be the government's contribution to this project, be it in the form of money, government grants, tax concessions or subsidies?
- (3) Does the government know what the yearly cost of running, operating and maintaining these facilities would be?
- (4) Are these facilities expected to generate and run at a profit?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question. The following information has been provided by the Minister for Tourism.

- (1) The Australian Biome Project is being pursued by the private sector, and I received a briefing from the proponents last year.
- (2) The project spokesperson, Mr Adam Barnard, stated in the media yesterday that the proponents were not seeking state government funding.
- (3) No.
- (4) Private sector projects would expect to generate a profit.