

COCKBURN SOUND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**703. Hon PAUL LLEWELLYN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for the Environment:**

I refer to the funding of the Cockburn Sound Management Council.

- (1) What funding arrangements does the government have in place for the Cockburn Sound Management Council to carry out its responsibilities under the State Environmental (Cockburn Sound) Policy 2005 for the monitoring of the health of Cockburn Sound and water quality in the sound?
- (2) Will the government's funding arrangements enable the council to maintain its current level of monitoring, management, reporting and projects?
- (3) Which specific projects and activities will continue under the current annual base funding and which specific projects and activities will no longer be funded?
- (4) How can the government ensure effective environmental monitoring of Cockburn Sound when unprecedented development is planned for the area?

**Hon SALLY TALBOT replied:**

I thank Hon Paul Llewellyn for some notice of this question, to which the Minister for the Environment has provided the following answer —

- (1) The government has allocated \$240 000 for the 2008-09 financial year to the Cockburn Sound Management Council.
- (2)-(3) The funding will allow the council to continue to undertake its core role of monitoring the sound, the development of the annual state of the sound report and other reporting to the Minister for the Environment at an appropriate level. The government is examining a number of options to boost the council's capacity.
- (4) See the answer to (1).