

LAND ACQUISITIONS, REGIONAL SCHEMES — PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

**998. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Planning:**

I refer to the need identified in the “Planning Makes It Happen” blueprint for funding sources for strategic land acquisitions and regional schemes, and specifically to the need for reservation funding mechanisms when land required is not in crown ownership.

- (1) How can the government progress plans for future public infrastructure, public land uses, and parks and recreation areas without putting in place a whole-of-government approach to funding this vital infrastructure?
- (2) Can the minister at least tell us what funding options are being considered and when the government intends to make its plans public?

**Hon ROBYN McSWEENEY replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The provision of public infrastructure and public amenities such as regional parks is a long-term task, and the Western Australian Planning Commission takes a lead role in planning these land uses through the preparation of planning strategies and schemes. Through the WAPC’s Infrastructure Coordinating Committee, a range of representatives, including government agencies and service providers, also ensure that cross-portfolio considerations are taken into account during the strategic planning process. New local planning schemes and amendments are likewise prepared through a process that includes agency and public consultation and, in the case of statutory region schemes and amendments, scrutiny by state Parliament.
- (2) The funding mechanism used in the Perth metropolitan region is the metropolitan region improvement fund, which uses a hypothecated tax to ensure that dedicated funds are available for such acquisitions.