

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION — APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

497. Mr P. PAPALIA to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to recent appointments to the Local Government Grants Commission and the Western Australian Local Government Association's selection of two suitable candidates for the commission, only to have them rejected by the minister and replaced by two people selected by him.

- (1) Can the minister confirm that he appointed two friends of the Liberal Party to the commission, one the Mayor of Nedlands and the other a former Liberal Party candidate for Bassendean?
- (2) Has the minister taken advice that his actions breach section 5(1)(c) of the Local Government Grants Act 1978?
- (3) What was the advice?
- (4) Is it also true that his appointments remained current from February until he was advised by WALGA in April of the inappropriate nature of his appointments?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

- (1)-(4) I asked WALGA for a list of names for me to consider, and I appointed two from that list. I am not quite sure —

Mr P. Papalia: They were not on the list, minister.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I asked for a complete list of the people who nominated. I will confirm that with the member, if that is all right. I appointed two people. I was then given the advice that it was contrary to what I was able to do, and I have asked WALGA for another list. That is where it is at.