

DESIGN WA — INFILL DEVELOPMENTS

**69. Mr C.J. TALLENTIRE to the Minister for Planning:**

- (1) Can the Minister for Planning advise the house how the apartment design guidelines that were released yesterday will provide business certainty and encourage quality, high standards and development across Western Australia?
- (2) Can the minister outline to the house what these guidelines mean for Metronet and sensible, high-quality infill development around public transport?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Scarborough, it is not a chat-fest.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(2) Yesterday, we launched Design WA at which a strong crowd of more than 650 people listened to the Labor government’s plan for sensible infill development and sensible design. Of course, housing choice and housing diversity are at the core of what we are offering to the public—making sure that people have the opportunity to age in place, and that the younger generation have the option of moving into suburbs that are connected to public transport, education opportunities and work. It is part of an overall package: planning reform, Design WA and Metronet.

Design WA sets new minimum standards for apartment buildings, including improved ventilation and lighting for apartments; better separation for taller buildings so that balconies are not too close to each other; standards for tree canopy and vegetation to, again, make sure that the green element is kept in our suburbs; facilities for charging electric vehicles; balcony sizes that better reflect the size of apartments; space for recycling, the new three-bin system and for managing waste better; and, of course, more sustainable apartment living. It was with great delight that I was able to launch that yesterday. I welcome the member for Perth’s contribution to the debate. I thought it was a very, very good contribution in which he highlighted some of the views opposite, in particular the comments of the member for Cottesloe, who has been scaremongering on the issue of infill. I know that the member for Cottesloe was disappointed that his comments in this place were repeated in that forum, but he was basically giving everyone an insight into what the Liberal Party has been saying in this place about infill and density and about creating division. The government is trying to promote a sensible community debate and discussion about infill by making sure that we put it in the right places and making sure everyone has housing choices in our suburbs. We are not going to walk away from that challenge.