

SEABIRD — COASTAL EROSION

239. Hon DARREN WEST to the minister representing the Minister for Lands:

I refer to the story on Channel 7's *Today Tonight* on 19 February about aggressive coastal erosion in the town of Seabird and the Minister for Lands' commitments to form an interdepartmental committee and to organise meetings about the matter.

- (1) Have any meetings taken place since 19 February; and, if not, why not?
- (2) Has an interdepartmental committee been formed and; if not, why not?
- (3) Has the Minister for Lands had any communication with the Shire of Gingin about the matter since his statement to *Today Tonight*?
- (4) Given the minister claimed this matter was "now urgent", what action has the government taken since 19 February about the potential loss of property as a result of erosion?
- (5) What options are being considered for the long-term protection of properties from coastal erosion?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

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

- (1) Yes. The Departments of Transport, Planning and Lands met on 25 February 2015 at officer level and subsequently the directors general of Planning and Lands met on 5 March 2015.
- (2) No. There is a project underway led by the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council, partnered with the Shires of Gingin and Dandaragan called the Gingin Dandaragan Coastal Partnership, that is developing a coastal hazard risk management and adaption plan for the coastal line between Guilderton to Jurien Bay. The Departments of Transport and Planning have provided funding for the plan's development and are engaged with this project directly providing specialist expertise. The Department of Lands has been advised by partnership staff, located at the Shire of Gingin, that the department will be engaged for crown land tenure advice pending the outcome of a mapping exercise currently underway but not likely to require crown land tenure advice until the end of April 2015.
- (3) The Shire of Gingin wrote to the Minister for Lands about Seabird's coastal erosion on 27 February 2015, and the minister will respond to the shire shortly.
- (4) The Departments of Transport and Planning continue to provide technical advice towards the development of the coastal hazard risk management and adaption plan.
- (5) The Department of Lands in consultation and with advice from the Departments of Planning and Transport is preparing options for the minister to consider in regards to the protection of properties from erosion. The options presented will be consistent with the Western Australian Planning Commission State Planning Policy 2.6 State Coastal Planning Policy. The minister will consider the options once they are presented to him.