

KALUMBURU COMMUNITY — SWIMMING POOL

**799. Ms J. FARRER to the Minister for Housing:**

Can the minister update the house on how the government is working with the people of Kalumburu to deliver its commitment of a new swimming pool and achieve the best outcome for the community?

**Mr P.C. TINLEY replied:**

I thank the member for the question. She has long been an advocate for all of her electorate and, of course, for all of the communities right across the Kimberley, particularly the remote communities. For the benefit of the chamber, members opposite recently raised the issue in relation to the Kalumburu pool and a commitment. I want to reaffirm to the chamber that the McGowan government, prior to the last election, committed \$14 million to two pools—one at Balgo and the other at Kalumburu. I can happily inform the house that construction of the pool at Balgo is imminent. Kalumburu is of particular interest to us because it has taken some time through the process to make sure that we are delivering exactly what the community wants and/or needs.

Consultation has been ongoing. An issue was raised from some members opposite and previously about this idea that a water park might be contemplated. I would like to mention to the house that that is in fact not the case. It was raised at one point in the process. It is a very well researched area around remote communities, particularly the benefits of swimming pools right across Australia now, around the social and health benefits of a swimming pool to remote communities, particularly for young children, and the requirement from that to have full immersion in chlorinated water is one of the best outcomes for all of the various issues that may arise from the environmental arrangements in these communities. Of course, water parks are difficult to manage. They take more power and they require more pumping. They need more still water on the ground. Members opposite would remember how difficult water parks are to manage, would they not? They would remember that because of the illnesses that the former government caused young Western Australians through many, many iterations of its failure to commit to Elizabeth Quay in a meaningful way rather than just another headline!

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I thought I was going to get through question time today without calling anyone to order. I still might.

**Mr P.C. TINLEY:** I am working on it, Mr Speaker.

Of course, the management of a water park is really difficult. The former government created a toxic environment that actually even killed dolphins. They killed Flipper, man! That is what they did. I can reassure the house and all members opposite who may be activated on this issue that consultation with the community has been ongoing, detailed and in-depth. In fact, since coming to government my department has engaged with the community not less than 10 times for something they have been asking for since 2014. Who was in government in 2014? They have been asking for that long, yet the commitment from those opposite, when they were in government, to remote communities is evident. Their disdain for the needs of First Nation Western Australians is really on display through this arrangement.

I also want to note for the member for Roe, who asked the question, that if he had bothered to do any sort of research in relation to this question to the Premier over the member for Kimberley's assertion that no formal consultation had occurred, a very short google search would get him to a media report on 27 October that talks—with a nice photo—about the member for Kimberley consulting the actual community. Ms Farrer reaffirmed Labor's election commitments. The article stated —

“The community asked about a swimming pool way back in 2014,” Ms Farrer said. “They talked about a (need for a) pool then and their concerns for little ones, who'd been lost in drownings.

“We've got to give these people what they need. A swimming pool provides a whole lot of health benefits for kids.”

She has been advocating for years, both before Parliament and in Parliament, for this swimming pool. If the member for Roe wants more information, no problem—just write to me. I will give him as much as he needs to make sure he understands.

Unfortunately, members, it seems that the Liberal–National Parties' concern for remote housing extends as far as Moora. After that, it seems to taper off in great distinction. I read with some interest that the former member for Pilbara, Brendon Grylls, has signalled he is exiting the entire arena and no longer wants to be part of the political environment because he has started another group, the Brendon Grylls Group. The old Brendon Grylls group is over, kids. It has finished. Brendon Grylls has moved on. The opposition should move on, too. Pick up the slack and start leaning well forward in supporting the remote communities.

*Point of Order*

**Dr D.J. HONEY:** This is completely irrelevant to the question that was asked.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** What standing order?

**Dr D.J. HONEY:** Section 94, Mr Speaker.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Mr P.C. TINLEY:** Members of the National and Liberal Parties, all I would say is that Brendon Grylls has moved on. Brendon is gone. He has dropped members like Friday's schoolbag. It is over. Let it go.