

PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING — PURCHASE OF STOCK

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

I refer to the public library framework agreement and the previous government's commitment to spend \$30 million over three years for the purchase of new library stock.

- (1) Is it true that the government omitted from the budget funding for stocking the state's libraries?
- (2) Does that not mean that local governments around the state will be compelled to increase their contribution to libraries beyond the \$66 million that they already commit?
- (3) Is this a \$30 million hole in the 2009-10 budget?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

- (1)-(3) I hope that there is funding for the purchase of library books. I need to confirm this, but I think it is in the arts and culture budget.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! I have given the member for Warnbro a supplementary question if he wants to ask one.