

CITY OF GERALDTON–GREENOUGH — PEAK OIL — TREASURER’S COMMENTS

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

I refer to the claims made by the Treasurer last Tuesday that the City of Geraldton–Greenough commissioned a consultants’ report into peak oil at a cost of over \$100 000.

- (1) Is the minister aware that this allegation is completely false?
- (2) Will the minister now apologise to the City of Geraldton–Greenough for the false comments made by the Treasurer?
- (3) As Minister for Local Government, will the minister demand that the Treasurer and the member for Geraldton, from whom the Treasurer received the false information, apologise for these false claims?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I think the member for Warnbro asked the question seriously and I suspect that the minister and other members thought it was a serious question. If the member for Warnbro wants the minister to answer it, he should give the minister an opportunity to answer it.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: The question was whether I am aware that \$100 000 was spent on a report —

Mr P. Papalia: No, the question was: are you aware of the false allegation from the Treasurer; will you apologise to the City of Geraldton–Greenough for that false allegation; and will you ask the Treasurer and the member for Geraldton to apologise?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

- (1) I am not aware of any false allegation because I have not been privy to any documentation.
- (2) I do not make it a habit to apologise for anyone who may or may not have done something wrong or for someone else who has done something wrong.
- (3) Will I direct someone else to do something? The answer is no.