

KEELTY REPORT — LOCAL GOVERNMENTS — BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS

**874. Mr P. PAPALIA to the Minister for Local Government:**

I refer to this government's shambolic handling of bushfire preparedness and the Keelty report findings.

- (1) Have responsible local governments instituted a comprehensive plan to assess fuel loads and bushfire preparedness on private properties in accordance with recommendation 38 of the Keelty report?
- (2) Have local governments increased local government green waste collections in accordance with recommendation 17 of the Keelty report?
- (3) Has the Western Australian Local Government Association explored local government use of aerial and satellite imagery to monitor firebreaks and fuel loads in accordance with recommendation 18 of the Keelty report?

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:**

(1)–(3) Under the Bush Fires Act local governments operate in bushfires with the Fire and Emergency Services Authority. That is who they are responsible to, not to me as the Minister for Local Government.

**Mr P. Papalia:** Answer the question on the Keelty report!

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI:** I can tell the member for Warnbro one thing: there is a local government in my electorate called the City of Bunbury, which is a leader in the management plan —

**Mr P. Papalia:** Are you even aware of the recommendations?

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI:** I am aware of them.

**Mr P. Papalia:** What have you done about them?

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI:** Some reference has been made to WALGA in that report. WALGA is an independent body; it is not a government department.

**Mr P. Papalia:** Recommendation 38, recommendation 17, recommendation 18.

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI:** WALGA is like a chamber of commerce and industry of local government in Western Australia. If the member has questions about WALGA, he should go and talk to WALGA. It is not a government department. I cannot direct WALGA. I do not direct WALGA.

Several members interjected.

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI:** Oh yes. I say to the member for Warnbro that some local governments do it very well and some local governments do not. Local governments are under the auspices of the fire and emergency services legislation when it comes to bushfires.