

FIRST QUANTUM NICKEL MINE — RAVENSTHORPE TASK FORCE

**440. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:**

I refer to the closure of Ravensthorpe nickel mine and the establishment of a task force to lead the government's response.

- (1) Can the Premier indicate who the members of the established task force are and when it met?
- (2) Have any ministers visited Ravensthorpe since the decision to close the mine was made?
- (3) What financial assistance will be provided to impacted workers and small businesses?
- (4) Has the Premier instructed any ministers to identify and fast-track job-creating projects in the Ravensthorpe–Esperance area to create jobs?
- (5) Will the Premier instruct the Minister for Regional Development to ensure that all projects within the goldfields–Esperance revitalisation plan, including the sports stadium, TAFE and Culham Inlet Causeway, are fully funded to create local jobs?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

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

- (1)–(5) Government officers have met to review the situation arising from the decision to place the Ravensthorpe nickel mine into care and maintenance. Officers have visited Ravensthorpe to offer advice and assistance, and contacted the company and local Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia to establish the impact of this decision on local businesses and employees. The government will consider further assistance in due course.