

SWAN VALLEY BUS SERVICE

831. Ms J.J. SHAW to the Minister for Transport:

Before I begin today, I acknowledge the presence in the public gallery of the student leaders and principal of Ann Hamersley Primary School from my electorate. I welcome them and hope they have had a lovely day!

I refer to the new Swan Valley hop-on, hop-off bus service the minister launched yesterday. Can the minister outline to the house how the McGowan Labor government is working with local small business operators, such as Adams Charters, to drive tourism throughout the Swan Valley and reverse the eight and a half years of neglect of this region by the previous Liberal–National government?

Dr M.D. Nahan: Did it go to tender?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

No, I did not swipe right, Leader of the Opposition!

I thank the member for Swan Hills for that question and her strong advocacy for the Swan Valley, and of course for her electorate. Yesterday, on behalf of the Minister for Tourism, we were out there launching the new hop-on, hop-off bus for the Swan Valley —

Mr S.K. L'Estrange: As opposed to jump on, fall off?

The SPEAKER: No, but you will be jumping off and going home early if you keep that up. I call you to order for the first time.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: We are committed to boosting tourism in the Swan Valley. This is a huge new initiative, of course involving Adams, the state government and the Swan Valley Tourism Alliance, a group that has been established to try to bring a cross–Swan Valley view on all things in the valley and to try to coordinate what has sometimes been a fractured view of the future of the valley. That group is working together with small tourism operators.

The City of Swan was there, very much supporting and promoting the initiative, and I of course acknowledge its contribution to this new service. The service will operate seven days a week and will bring a new element to tourism in the Swan Valley and WA. It is about making sure we attract interstate and overseas visitors and grow the market, because it is all about making sure more people have the chance to experience what is a wonderful destination—the Swan Valley. I of course acknowledge the member for Midland, too, who was out there yesterday again supporting this very, very strong initiative. In opposition we committed to promoting the Swan Valley, and the now Minister for Tourism has been out there promoting what we can do in the valley. Of course, what have we heard from the opposition? The most negative shadow minister on the opposite side—the member for Vasse —

Ms L. Mettam: How did your tourism numbers go?

The SPEAKER: Yes, well, if you just want to keep your voice down, please.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: Remember the member for Vasse criticised —

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Vasse, I call you to order for the first time.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: She is the dial-a-quote shadow minister, who criticises everything that we do in tourism. In respect of Gourmet Escape, what did she say? “It should not go to the Swan Valley”! That is what the member for Vasse said!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Vasse, I call you to order for the second time.

Ms L. Mettam: They misrepresented.

The SPEAKER: Member for Vasse, I call you to order for the third time. I was on my feet.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for Vasse said Gourmet Escape should not go to the Swan Valley, but what did she say yesterday? She said, “Look, in respect to the bus, we need a longer term strategy because if it is not backed up by initiatives to attract people to the Swan Valley, it is not good enough.” So she opposes extending Gourmet Escape to the Swan Valley, but she then goes out and says, “We need more initiatives for the Swan Valley.” She is all over the place! She opposes everything. Of course, the member for Darling Range—the successful Kalamunda small business person —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Darling Range!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for Darling Range—the successful small business person from Kalamunda —

Mrs A.K. Hayden: Bring it on!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: Bring it on? We will bring it on!

Mrs A.K. Hayden: Come to Perth hills, like you promised!

The SPEAKER: I do not know what they do in the upper house, but when the Speaker is on his feet —

Mrs A.K. Hayden: I can teach you!

The SPEAKER: Member for Darling Range, I call you to order for the first, second and third time. I am warning you that if you do it again, you are out.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for Darling Range was the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism, if anyone can remember that, when she was in government. Can anyone remember any of her achievements? Did she deliver a new bus service to the Swan Valley? No. She was trying to get that successful small business happening in Kalamunda, I suspect. She was working on that successful small business in Kalamunda.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: She knows a lot about how to fix a résumé, I think. That is what she knows.

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: That was certainly an imputation on the member for Darling Range. I ask the minister to withdraw.

The SPEAKER: What did she say?

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: The minister impugned the member, saying that she had fixed her résumé—falsified her résumé. I ask her to withdraw.

The SPEAKER: I do not think the minister said she fixed it. What did you say, minister?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: That she knows how to fix a résumé.

The SPEAKER: Can you withdraw that, please?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: I withdraw.

Mr P.C. Tinley interjected.

The SPEAKER: Minister for Housing, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr P.C. Tinley interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call you to order for the second time.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism could not deliver one new initiative to the Swan Valley. She is criticising the plan, too, would members believe? We are supporting the Swan Valley. The new bus service is a huge new —

Dr M.D. Nahan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: It is a huge new tourism product for Western Australia. It is something that supports local tourism, tourists from interstate and overseas visitors.