

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM FUNDING PROGRAM

887. Mr P. Papalia to the Minister for Local Government

I refer to the Local Government Reform Funding Program:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that local governments have committed widely varying levels of effort and expenditure to this process?
- (2) How many local governments have applied for the \$10,000 on offer for complying with the Minister's process?
- (3) Please name each of the local governments that have received funds from the Reform Funding Program and how much each of them has received?
- (4) Has the Minister/or will the Minister assess how much time, money and effort each local government has invested in this process before distributing the \$10,000 the Minister has offered to each council, or is it similar to the Country Local Government Fund?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

- (1) Yes. It is pleasing to see that the sector has embraced the Government's reform strategy.
- (2) Ten submissions for funding have been received, involving 23 local governments.
- (3) As of 25 May 2009, Western Suburbs Regional Organisation of Councils (WESROC) and Carnarvon (on behalf of Exmouth and Shark Bay) funding arrangements granted. The applications received are in the process of finalisation. Once approved, those local governments will be informed of the allocated funding.
- (4) Local governments are required to submit a proposed budget outlining how funds are to be spent. This will be assessed against the guidelines for the funding.