

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMALGAMATIONS

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

I refer to the minister's botched plan to force local government amalgamations.

- (1) Is it true that the minister has a secret plan to dismiss councils in the greater Bunbury region scheme and replace them with commissioners?
- (2) Is it true that he has been told by his federal colleagues to delay implementing the plan until after the federal election to avoid embarrassing their campaign?
- (3) Does he have similar secret plans for other regional areas that are also on hold until after the federal election?

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

(1)–(3) Is it not fantastic? If it was such a secret, it would not be a secret, so how would the member know for a start?

**Mr P. Papalia:** Someone in the Liberal Party told me!

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI:** Fantastic! The member for Warnbro should hear what some of his members tell me! As the member and I know, both of us have been away so I have hardly spoken to the federal member in the area. The answer to the second part of the question is no.