

ROTTNEST ISLAND — MARINA DEVELOPMENT

7392. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Tourism

I refer to comments by the Minister that the Rottnest Island Authority should crank up plans for a new marina at the southern end of Thomson Bay, and I ask:

- (a) what plans (including costing, engineering reports, stakeholder reports) is the Government undertaking to pursue a marina development at Rottnest Island;
- (b) has the Minister asked the Rottnest Island authority to examine the feasibility of a seawall; and if so, when will the report be provided to the Government;
- (c) what meetings has the Minister had with Rottnest Island Authority about this marina, when were these meetings held and who attended;
- (d) what meetings has the Minister had with Perth Game Fishing Club about this marina, when were these meetings held and who attended;
- (e) how can the government guarantee that the benefits of such a development will go to holidaying families?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

- (a) The Rottnest Island Management Plan 2009–14 allows for the preparation of a Boating Management Strategy which will form the basis for the development of safe, well managed marine facilities compatible with the boating capacity of Rottnest Island. As part of this strategy, the Rottnest Island Authority (RIA) is conducting a feasibility study on possible marina facilities, which will include financial, social, environmental and sustainability considerations.
- (b) As part of its Boating Management Strategy and marina feasibility study, the RIA will be looking at improving existing marine facilities to achieve safe boating while protecting the marine environment, visitor amenity and safety. A seawall concept will be considered as part of this process. It is expected that a final report on the marina feasibility study will be available to Government by the end of July 2012.
- (c) The marina was discussed with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the RIA at scheduled meetings to consider a range of issues on 17 October 2011, 19 January 2012 and 6 February 2012. Policy advisers and the RIA Ministerial Liaison and Legislation Officer also attended.
- (d) Nil.
- (e) The objective of the Boating Management Strategy, and associated marina feasibility study, is to provide the Rottnest Island boating community with optimal and equitable usage of safe, well managed marine facilities. The expected success measures will be an increase in boating satisfaction and a healthier marine environment, both of which will benefit holidaying families on Rottnest.