

STIRLING NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COASTCARE

Statement by Member for Scarborough

MRS L.M. HARVEY (Scarborough) [12.50 pm]: On Tuesday morning I had the pleasure of the company of a group of year 6 Hale Primary School students who were ably assisting Stirling Natural Environment Coastcare in the removal of weeds from a section of dunes near the Peasholm Street dog beach. The large patch of lupins was identified by Stirling Natural Environment Coastcare—known as SNEC—as part of the weed mapping of the City of Stirling’s coastal foreshore, and is part of an important Coastwest project that the group has received funding for. For those unfamiliar with lupins, they contain a large exploding seedpod that looks similar to a peapod. SNEC advises that, should these pods be allowed to explode, one year’s seeds result in seven years worth of weeding. The removal of the seedpods by the Hale students will make a significant difference to the Peasholm dunes for many years to come.

I commend the students from year 6 at Hale school, their teachers—namely, Mr Tim Simpson and Mr Mark Pressley—Coastcare officer Kate Sputore; the convener of SNEC, Rae Kolb; and her hardworking, energetic team of volunteers. SNEC is a resilient and passionate group of hardworking people who spend enormous amounts of their own time taking care of our coastline. The group is involved in a number of other projects around the local coastline, including revegetation work that saw it plant over 4 000 seedlings across a number of sites within the local area. We are greatly indebted to SNEC for the fantastic work it continues to provide and its enthusiastic efforts inspiring strong partnerships with the community, the City of Stirling, Woodside, RecFishWest, Conservation Volunteers Australia and school groups and universities. I take this opportunity to thank SNEC and the fine young lads from year 6 at Hale school for their efforts in freeing our fragile coastal dune system of weeds.