

PERTH METROPOLITAN AREA — HOUSING DIVERSITY AND EMPLOYMENT

332. Mr P. PAPALIA to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

What are the latest plans to deliver housing diversity and jobs within the existing urban envelope?

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for his question and I thank him for his enlightenment, because unlike the Leader of the Opposition, he does not believe that the only response to Perth's growing population is carving up more cow paddocks on the urban fringe. We were very pleased on the weekend to release plans for a modern, lively, oceanside community planned on 95 hectares of neglected land behind the coastal dunes along the Cockburn coast between South Beach and Port Coogee.

Mr T. Buswell: North Quay, is it?

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: A geography lesson for the Leader of the Opposition, who has not been getting out and about enough looking at the real world: North Quay is north of the river and South Beach is south of the river. We are talking about the area between South Beach and Port Coogee.

Mr M.J. Cowper interjected.

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: We will tell the people there. I hope the member is not standing as a candidate there. However, the member is quite right to point out that this area has been neglected for many years. When we first came to government, we saw the potential of this area. We saw its potential to assist us to deliver Network City principles, which are about getting more development within the existing urban footprint and getting jobs and residences close to services and close to high levels of amenity and public transport. We immediately suspended industrial land sales and put a moratorium on selling off more of this fantastic land for industrial purposes, which had been the plan of the previous government, and went about a new vision for the area. After a number of years of working very closely with the local community and the Cities of Cockburn and Fremantle, we were able to release the draft plan on Sunday. It will be a fantastic development, which will result in there being around 12 000 residents, and lots of businesses and mixed-use development, and it will provide the opportunity to finally restore that wonderful icon of the South Fremantle power station, which has been much neglected, much to the chagrin of the member for Fremantle, for 25 years. It is all good. We can do Network City, and we can plan this city a lot smarter. It just takes a bit of vision and a lot of hard work.