

WATER — GARDEN BORES

1366. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the minister representing the Minister for Water:

- (1) According to the Department of Water's report "Environmental management of groundwater abstraction from the Gnangara Mound: Annual compliance report to the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority July 2012 to June 2011" dated December 2011, the department has installed 60 meters on domestic garden bores located throughout the Perth metropolitan area to determine their average water usage. This is 0.03 per cent of the total number of bores. Therefore —
 - (a) what is the average size of a property with a garden bore, and the average irrigated area;
 - (b) what is the average size of a property, and its irrigated area, that has one of these 60 metered bores; and
 - (c) where generally are these 60 metered bores located across the Perth metropolitan area?
- (2) How did the department determine that, after the introduction in November 2011 of the three-day-a-week sprinkler roster, use per bore would decrease to 440 kilolitres a year; what assumptions were made?
- (3) How much would it cost the government to replace garden bore demand should the superficial aquifer collapse due to climate change and unsustainable abstraction?
- (4) How does this cost compare with the current cost of meeting this demand through garden bores?

The PRESIDENT: I remind the questioner of standing order 105 about the need for questions to be concise; otherwise, we might need an answer that turns into a novel.

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. On behalf of the Minister for Water the answer is —

Due to the level of information required, it is not possible to provide an answer in the time available and therefore I request the honourable member place this question on notice.