

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRUST — SUE MIDDLETON

1086. Hon Robin Chapple to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer to the appointment of Sue Middleton, who worked on the 2013 National Party campaign (*Hansard*, 11 June 2013, page 1164), to the Chair of the Western Australian Regional Development Trust (WARDT), and I ask:

- (a) how many contracts have been let by the current and former Minister for Regional Development's departments to Sue Middleton's consulting businesses;
- (b) on what dates were these contracts let;
- (c) have all of these contracts been concluded;
- (d) will any of these contracts need the newly appointed Chair of the WARDT to declare an interest in these matters;
- (e) is there any conflict of interest by the new Chair of the WARDT and the Minister's support for Moora Citrus operated by the Chair; and
- (f) has the newly appointed Chair of the WARDT received any grants from the Minister's department to any operation managed or controlled by her family?

**Hon Col Holt replied:**

**DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable
- (e) No
- (f) No

**DEPARTMENT OF LANDS**

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable
- (e) No
- (f) No

**LANDCORP**

- (a) One
- (b) 21 March 2014
- (c) No - due to conclude 30/06/2014
- (d) No
- (e) No
- (f) No

**LANDGATE**

- (a) None
- (b)–(d) Not applicable
- (e) No
- (f) No

**GASCOYNE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No

**GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Nil

(b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No

**GREAT SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Two

(b) 1 July 2013 and 24 February 2014

(c) Yes

(d) Sue Middleton was engaged to undertake a desktop peer review of the Draft Great Southern Regional Blueprint in February 2014. The contract was successfully completed and Ms Middleton paid on 12 March 2014. GSDC understands Ms Middleton was not the chair of the WARDT at that time and therefore assesses she would not be required to declare a conflict of interest in regard to that role. Ultimately however, such assessment as to whether a conflict exists and should be declared is Ms Middleton's.

(e) No

(f) No

**KIMBERLEY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Nil

(b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No

**MID WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Nil

(b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No

**PEEL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Nil

(b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No

**PILBARA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Nil

(b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No

**SOUTHWEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Nil

(b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No

**WHEATBELT DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

(a) Nil

(b)–(d) Not applicable

(e) No

(f) No