Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 9 May 2023] p1823d-1824a Hon Ben Dawkins; Hon Sue Ellery

GLEN IRIS GOLF COURSE

426. Hon BEN DAWKINS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Planning:

I refer to the minister's decision to approve a planning amendment to allow the redevelopment of former Glen Iris golf course in Jandakot into residential lots.

- (1) Can the minister confirm amendment 152 to the City of Cockburn's planning scheme was not supported by the elected members of the City of Cockburn by a margin of nine to one?
- (2) Can the minister confirm a petition was presented to the Legislative Council with 10 000 signatures opposing the amendment?
- (3) How many times has the minister met with representatives of the property developer, Eastcourt Management Pty Ltd, which currently owns the former Glen Iris golf course, in the period 1 January 2018 to date?
- (4) Is the minister concerned that overruling the wishes of the local community and their elected representatives in favour of supporting the commercial interests of political donors to the WA Labor Party—for a sum of \$27 500—creates perceptions of possible corruption within the McGowan Labor government?

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I recognise that this is the honourable member's first question in this place, and I congratulate him on that, so I was listening quite closely to the question. For the member's information, all parts of the questions need to comply with the standing orders or will be ruled out of order. On first listening, the last part of that question may not meet the requirements of standing order 105 in that it possibly seeks an opinion, or standing order 45, in that it may suggest an imputation. At this stage, I will not rule that part of the question out of order. I know questions take a lot of practice to write in the first instance to ensure they comply with the standing orders, so I suggest that the member seek advice on those parts of the questions when drafting questions in the future. I will see whether the Leader of the House has an answer and is able to reply to at least the first part of the question.

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

(1)–(4) The minister's decision was consistent with both the City of Cockburn's planning department and the Western Australian Planning Commission, which assessed the proposed scheme amendment and recommended it be approved. The former golf course is on privately owned land and the proposed scheme amendment is permitted under the existing metropolitan region scheme. The minister gave due regard to a number of the concerns raised, which is why she provided conditional approval and requested a number of modifications regarding the retention of mature trees and upgrades to existing road infrastructure. As is appropriate on important planning issues, the minister and representatives of the minister have met with a number of parties in relation to this issue, including members of the ratepayers association.