

TREE REGISTERS

66. Hon Dr BRAD PETTITT to the minister representing the Minister for Planning:

I refer to the minutes from the Town of Bassendean council meeting on Tuesday night, which include an amendment from the minister to significant tree registers.

- (1) Does the government intend to stop all local governments from having significant tree registers that include trees that are not registered by landowners?
- (2) If yes to (1), will this policy apply only to new schemes, or will it also apply to local government schemes that already include trees that were registered without landowners' permission?
- (3) Given that this government scrapped the strategic assessment of the Perth and Peel regions in December 2022, which would have protected 170 000 hectares of urban bushland, and recently rejected bids from the City of Nedlands and the City of South Perth to require development approval to remove significant trees from private land, what is this government doing to increase the tree canopy and protect mature trees across the Perth metropolitan area?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Minister for Planning.

- (1)–(2) The state government supports the establishment of voluntary significant tree registers through local planning schemes as a mechanism to protect trees on private land.
- (3) The Cook government has committed to prepare an urban greening strategy that will take a whole-of-government approach to promoting and enhancing tree canopy and greening across the Perth and Peel region. This builds on several other initiatives introduced by the current state government such as the Design WA suite of state planning policies, which include provisions that require and incentivise retention of existing trees, new tree planting, deep soil zones and soft landscaping along with communal and private open space in low to higher density developments.