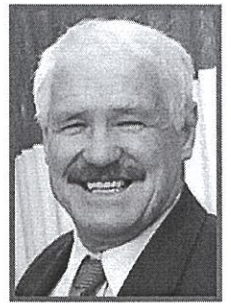
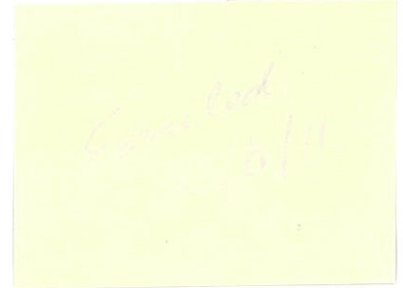




Mick Murray MLA
Member for Collie-Preston
Shadow Minister for Agriculture: Forestry: Racing & Gaming
Parliament of Western Australia



The Hon Brian Ellis MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000



Dear Mr Ellis

RE: Petition No 113 - Request the Legislative Council support the establishment of a Police Station in the Town of Capel.

I would like to put forward my support to the above mentioned petition that was tabled in the Legislative Council on Tuesday 17 May 2011 by the Honourable Dr Sally Talbot.

Ms Lesley Davis, after discussions with members of community members, groups and organisations, organised the petition in response to concerns of criminal activity and the lack of a police presence within the town.

Community concerns include the time taken by police from neighbouring towns to attend to callouts in Capel. It can take 30 minutes or more for a unit to arrive in Capel and if the matter was serious or life-threatening it would without doubt be distressing.

Apart from the local domestic activities of hooning, house break-ins, etc., another concern is the number of businesses in the town who are being broken into. The ripple on effect of this is that people are very reluctant to venture into a new business while there is no police protection in situ.

Of major concern is that with Shire of Capel is one of the fastest growing areas in Western Australia as recognised by the Western Australian Electoral Commission. With the growth of an area is the need to manage the increasing demand for community infrastructure, facilities and services.

Given the time-frame it takes to fulfil infrastructure requirements serious consideration should be given to supporting the need for a Police Station in Capel.

Yours sincerely

Mick Murray, MLA
Member for Collie-Preston

22 June 2011