



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Debates

(HANSARD)

THIRTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT
THIRD SESSION
1999

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 7 September 1999

Legislative Assembly

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THE SPEAKER (Mr Strickland) took the Chair at 2.00 pm, and read prayers.

ABC RADIO 6WF, BROADCAST FROM PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Statement by Speaker

THE SPEAKER (Mr Strickland): Members, on Thursday this week between 12 noon and 6.00 pm, ABC Radio 6WF will broadcast from Parliament House. This special broadcast will include live and taped interviews with members and staff as well as a live broadcast of question time in the Legislative Assembly. A main broadcast desk will be established on the first floor foyer opposite the Premier's office and a secondary station will be established in the corner of the Press Gallery of this Chamber. Permission has been given to interview members and staff in most locations in the building except the dining room. To accommodate an ABC news commitment, I have agreed that question time this Thursday will commence at 2.05 pm. Consequently I will not take the Chair after lunch on Thursday until 2.05 pm and the bells will commence ringing at 2.00 pm.

NUTRI-METICS SITE, REDEVELOPMENT

Petition

Dr Gallop (Leader of the Opposition) presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 112 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned petitioners call on the State Government and Parliament to oppose the high rise development application received for the Nutri Metics site, bounded by Albany Highway, Oswald Street, Hordern Street and Armagh Street Victoria Park, in that it is out of scale, out of character and sets a dangerous precedent for the future residential and commercial development of Victoria Park.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 26.]

OLD-GROWTH FORESTS, PROTECTION

Petition

MR PRINCE (Albany - Minister for Police) [2.05 pm]: I present the following petition -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned are totally opposed to any further destruction of Western Australia's old growth forest and ask that these forests be permanently protected by conservation reserves.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

In so far as I am able to certify, having looked through the petition and noted the number of signatures that are the same, the petition bears 1 301 signatures that are different and I certify that it conforms to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly.

The SPEAKER: I direct that the petition be brought to the Table of the House.

[See petition No 27.]

FINES, PENALTIES AND INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ENFORCEMENT ACT, REVIEW

Petition

Mrs Roberts presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 37 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned citizens of Western Australia request that the State Government urgently review the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 because of its impact on citizens who can least afford to pay and because the loss of licence is out of proportion to the original offence.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 28.]

AGED CARE FACILITIES, FUNDING*Petition*

MR MacLEAN (Wanneroo) [2.06 pm]: I present the following petition -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, request that the State Government fund all Aged Care Facilities for the difference between the average for other states for workers compensation premiums to those in force in Western Australia until such times as the workers compensation premiums fall in line with the other states for Aged Care Facilities.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

The petition bears 477 signatures and I certify that it conforms to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly. It contains a further 207 signatures which do not comply with the standing orders because they are facsimile signatures.

The SPEAKER: I direct that the petition be brought to the Table of the House.

[See petition No 29.]

PROSTITUTION, STIRLING STREET*Petition*

MS WARNOCK (Perth) [2.07 pm]: I have a petition which is worded in the following way -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned wish to make clear, our objections to street prostitution in Stirling Street and we call on the Government, to urgently address the causes and effects of street prostitution.

Your petitioners therefore humbly ask that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

An interestingly wide cross-section of the community is represented in this petition, from both businesses and residents. The petition bears 313 signatures and I certify that it conforms to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly.

The SPEAKER: I direct that the petition be brought to the Table of the House.

[See petition No 30.]

JOONDALUP TRAIN STATION, PARKING AREA*Petition*

Mr Baker presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 178 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned residents of the Joondalup Region, demand that Westrail acquire a suitable parcel of land adjacent to the Joondalup Train Station for the purposes of constructing a motor vehicle parking facility for the dedicated use of train commuters using the said station. We believe that the Joondalup Train Station should have been developed as a "Park and Ride Station", not a "Kiss and Ride Station" due to the fact that the station is not located in an urbanised area and the timetables associated with the connecting bus routes to the station are inadequate.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 31.]

FLOODWAYS BETWEEN WICKHAM AND KARRATHA*Petition*

Mr Riebeling presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 75 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned, call on the State Government to give higher priority to the construction of bridges to upgrade the current floodways between Wickham and Karratha. The timetable of three years is unacceptable to the residents affected by regular road closures caused by flooding.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 32.]

SCENIC RURAL AREAS

Petition

Mrs van de Klashorst presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 57 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned people of Western Australia wish to express our concern to increasing our areas population by approving the development of several new towns or villages.

Our scenic rural areas should not be urbanised. I do not want any new towns, villages or similar population centres to be built in my area.

Instead, I want to see development plans that allow our existing towns to grow and prosper by integrating any required population increase into those areas.

Furthermore, I want the community to be consulted before any plan is approved.

I, the undersigned am a member of this community and I do not want my wishes ignored.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 33.]

HIGH LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP, PANGEA RESOURCES PROPOSAL

Petition

Dr Edwards presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 320 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned residents of Western Australia are totally opposed to the Pangea proposal to locate a high level nuclear waste dump in Western Australia.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 34.]

FISHING, SOUTH WEST WATERS

Petition

Mr Masters presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 61 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, call for the banning of commercial trawling, shark netting and long-lining in Geographe Bay, the bay being defined by a line running from Cape Naturaliste to Naturaliste Reef and then to Bunbury.

As published in the Busselton-Margaret River Times and the Busselton Dunsborough Mail previously, and again on the 9th of February 1999, we believe that there has been a Bunbury licensed fishing boat systematically stripping the Bay by setting nets along the Four Mile Reef and up to Peppermint Grove Beach and the boat has also been seen to be setting nets across the Busselton artificial reef.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 35.]

TOM PRICE HIGH SCHOOL, GYMNASIUM

Petition

Mr Riebeling presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 34 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned seek your support in gaining sufficient funding to guarantee the construction of a gym for Tom Price High School.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 36.]

GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD, LABELLING

Petition

Mr Brown presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 71 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned petitioners call on the State Government to support the proper labelling of genetically modified food so that consumers know exactly what they are purchasing.

We believe consumers are entitled to make a choice between purchasing natural and genetically modified food. That choice can only be provided by the law requiring genetically modified food to be labelled.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 37.]

TOM PRICE-KARRATHA ROAD

Petition

Mr Riebeling presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 323 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned residents demand the Government honours its election promise to the people of Tom Price and Paraburdoo and immediately commences construction of the Tom Price-Karratha Road.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 38.]

MINGGA PATROL, ROEBOURNE

Petition

Mr Riebeling presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 11 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned seek your support in gaining sufficient funding to guarantee the continuation of Roebourne Mingga Patrol. We firmly believe that the Mingga Patrol is one of the most important services to have commenced in Roebourne to deal with alcohol abuse problems in the community.

And your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 39.]

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX, STATE-BASED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

Statement by Premier

MR COURT (Nedlands - Premier) [2.15 pm]: The Federal Government's goods and services tax will be introduced in July next year requiring extensive preparations in the form of state-based legislative change and measures to ensure government agencies are ready for the administrative implications. The State Government is making good progress in these preparations. I have previously provided information on the GST arrangements as part of the intergovernmental agreement on the reform of commonwealth-state financial relations. This has included two assessments by State Treasury on the impact of the new arrangements on state finances.

The Treasury has reviewed its preliminary assessment of the revised intergovernmental agreement, which I tabled on 3 June 1999. This review confirms that the preliminary assessment remains substantially valid. The only revision is that latest estimates of the benefit to the Western Australian budget are between \$700m and \$1.5b over 10 years, depending on when the State's business stamp duties are abolished.

To further the Government's progress on this issue, I will soon introduce legislation for the state taxation changes that will accompany the introduction of the GST. This legislation will effectively provide for the abolition of financial institutions duty and stamp duty on quoted marketable securities from 1 July 2001. Among other things, it will accommodate the Commonwealth's new diesel fuel rebate arrangements, adjust stamp duties to reflect GST, exclude GST from payroll tax, allow for price monitoring to rule out profiteering and attach the intergovernmental agreement to state legislation. Arrangements for the new first home owners' subsidy scheme will be introduced later in this session.

The intergovernmental agreement requires the Commonwealth, States and Territories to agree to a list of taxes and other government charges that will be GST free. This list will ultimately be determined by the Federal Treasurer. The Commonwealth is now consolidating the lists prepared for each State as taxes and charges must, for constitutional reasons, be consistent across all jurisdictions. The final, consolidated list is expected to be determined by the end of this year. All state government agencies and the Western Australian Municipal Association participated in the development of Western Australia's list. The list generally comprises -

taxes for general purposes - for example, payroll tax, stamp duties and local government rates; and

regulatory charges that do not directly relate to the supply of a particular good or service - for example drivers licences.

Government charges not included in the determination will generally be subject to the goods and services tax. Exceptions are fines and penalties, and charges relating to GST-free services - for example, health, education and water and sewerage.

I now table the list of Western Australia's state and local government taxes and charges proposed to be GST-free. The intergovernmental agreement also requires the Commonwealth, States and local governments to fully participate in the GST system in the same way as private businesses. State agencies will be introducing GST compliant administrative, accounting and information systems over the remainder of this financial year and, to assist, Treasury has distributed a GST implementation guide. I table a copy of this guide for the information of members.

Agencies are best placed to determine the GST implementation strategy that best suits their circumstances. However, to ensure that public resources are not wasted Treasury will provide general assistance to agencies on generic GST matters. In addition, the Department of Contract and Management Services is assisting agencies on the question of GST and contracting. Like its private sector counterparts, the public sector has some way to go to be fully able to accommodate the introduction of the GST. However, the planning and implementation processes are well under way. I am confident that the public sector will be GST compliant by July 2000.

[See papers Nos 117A to 117C.]

WORKERS COMPENSATION

Statement by Minister for Labour Relations

MRS EDWARDES (Kingsley - Minister for Labour Relations) [2.22 pm]: The legislation now before Parliament to amend the Workers' Compensation Act is only the first step towards a complete overhaul of workers compensation in Western Australia. It is part of a package recommended in a review headed by Mr Des Pearson, who is also Chairman of the Premium Rates Committee and the Auditor General.

The Government has accepted the package. All recommendations relating to statutory benefits and common law have been incorporated in the legislation. The recommendation to review medical and associated costs has been accepted, the review committee is in place and terms of reference are being developed. A recommendation for a full review of insurance practices has been accepted and the terms of reference are also being developed. Recommendations for administrative changes to the system are already being considered by the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Commission. Recommendations relating to dispute resolution were not costed by the review. Accordingly, they have been referred to the commission for evaluation and costing.

Injured workers are entitled to fair and reasonable compensation, and the Western Australian legislation provides the most generous anywhere in Australia. It gives employees a choice: An increased statutory payment or access to common law under certain conditions. Common law has already been abolished in South Australia, Victoria, the Northern Territory and the Commonwealth. Ninety-seven per cent of cases in Western Australia never go to common law. Of the remainder, about 25 per cent automatically meet the threshold for access to common law.

Apart from people in the workers compensation system, others in this debate deserve consideration: Workers who will lose their jobs; employers who could go out of business; the unemployed who will not get a job; and the frail, aged and disabled whose services will be reduced or abolished altogether.

The Government tried unsuccessfully to contain premiums last year. Regrettably, these amendments were not supported in Parliament, even though the Trades and Labor Council and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry both supported it. The need to support the package, including the legislation before Parliament, is even more crucial now than it was last year. Without action now, costs will increase by about 50 per cent next year, with dire consequences for jobs. The Government cannot allow this to happen and I ask the opposition parties to support these amendments.

I table the review, the addendum and a table showing action taken on the recommendations.

[See papers Nos 116A to 116C.]

FARM WATER GRANTS SCHEME

Statement by Minister for Water Resources

DR HAMES (Yokine - Minister for Water Resources) [2.24 pm]: Since 1995, the farm water grants scheme has targeted those parts of dryland Western Australia which have historically suffered from the most severe water deficiencies. This is where the cost and difficulty of developing on-farm water supplies is the highest.

Since 1995, the Government has put \$12m into this scheme and the result has been a resounding success. Farmers' contributions bring the total spent on farm water projects to \$36m. I am happy to say that we have reached a point where applications for grants under this scheme are now falling. Over the past three grant rounds, the comparatively low number of applicants supports the view that the majority of the farmers in priority areas with serious water problems have now applied for a grant. In view of this, it has been decided to extend the program to those who experience difficulties with their on-farm water supply but who have not been eligible in the past for a grant because of the present targeting process. Anecdotal evidence, for example, suggests that a large body of farmers in the lower great southern wool growing areas with significant on-farm water deficiency have not previously been able to qualify for a grant.

Until now, eligibility was determined by locality plus the severity of water deficiency in individual cases. For example, the Mullewa Shire in the northern wheatbelt has a locality score of 60 points and a farmer in that area needed an on-farm water deficiency of only 25 per cent to reach the 85 points required to be considered for a grant. By contrast, a farmer in the Boyup Brook Shire, which has a locality score of 30, needed an on-farm deficiency of at least 55 per cent to be considered.

It is now planned to determine grants based on individual cases alone and not take the locality into account. The minimum on-farm deficiency score will be raised from 25 per cent to 35 per cent and the changes will take effect in the October 1999 round of grants. The Government believes this change will be of particular benefit to wool growers, many of whom have considerable on-farm water deficiencies. Given the current climate in the wool industry, many growers are not able to afford necessary improvements to their water supply. It is hoped the changes to the farm water grants scheme will be of assistance to growers.

LAPSED BILLS - RESTORATION TO NOTICE PAPER

Council's Message

Message from the Council received and read acquainting the Assembly that it had agreed to its request that the Council resume consideration of the following Bills at the stage they had reached in the previous session -

1. School Education Bill 1997.
2. Sentence Administration Bill 1998.
3. Sentencing Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 1998.
4. Court Security and Custodial Services Bill 1998.
5. Court Security and Custodial Services (Consequential Provisions) Bill 1998.
6. Government Financial Responsibility Bill 1998.
7. Transport Co-ordination Amendment Bill 1998.
8. Water Services Coordination Amendment Bill 1999.
9. State Trading Concerns Amendment Bill 1999.
10. Child Welfare Amendment Bill 1998.
11. Planning Legislation Amendment Bill 1998.
12. Hospitals and Health Services Amendment Bill 1998.
13. Trust Removal (Mount Claremont Land) Bill 1998.
14. Rail Freight System Bill 1999.

and had agreed to reconsider Legislative Assembly message No 139 of 1998 which refers to the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Amendment Bill 1997.

[Questions without notice taken.]

EAST TIMOR, VOTE FOR INDEPENDENCE

Standing Orders Suspension

On motion by Mr Barnett (Leader of the House), resolved with an absolute majority -

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would allow the member for Armadale to move a motion in respect of the current conditions in East Timor.

Motion

MS MacTIERNAN (Armadale) [3.04 pm]: I move -

That this House expresses its support for the right of the people of East Timor to have their vote for independence honoured in peace. We deplore the violence currently being perpetrated on the East Timorese people and call on the Australian Government to take every step possible to protect the lives of the East Timorese as a matter of the greatest urgency.

I acknowledge the Government's support in allowing me to move this motion and thank it for providing bipartisan support.

This is not a traditional state issue, but the slaughter taking place on our doorstep is so appalling that as a democratic Parliament we must, at the very least, make this one small protest. There is a special connection between Western Australia and East Timor over and above our geographic proximity. The 2nd/2nd commando unit which went to East Timor in 1942 was largely composed of men from the south west of this State. These men have acknowledged time and again that it was the bravery and valour of the East Timorese that saved their lives. I was going to say that it was a privilege to see at first hand the East Timorese show extraordinary courage in the face of intimidation. However, after what I saw over the past two weeks I feel that I was part of a gigantic fraud perpetrated on the East Timorese people. I feel intensely ashamed that I was part of that process. Australia and the international community promised the East Timorese they would be there for them if, after 24 years of struggle, they again showed incredible bravery. The East Timorese were prepared to vote according to their conscience despite the extraordinary intimidation by the Indonesian Government-backed militia. But we promised we would be there, but we have not.

One of the towns that I was stationed in before and during the election was Liquica, which is about 50 kilometres west of Dili. To illustrate exactly how brave the East Timorese are, about four months before the election 40 members of the Liquica community were killed in a churchyard. Their families were denied the opportunity of removing their bodies from the churchyard. These people were left to rot until the dogs tore at them. The bodies were then scooped up and thrown into the ocean. About half of those bodies washed back onto shore. However, on election day 99 per cent of that community voted. Militia members were stationed around the polling booths and no one dared to campaign for the independence vote. Despite that, 99 per cent of the community, who only four months ago had seen 40 of their members slaughtered, were prepared to vote. These people should be celebrating. However, they cannot celebrate because, once again, they have been sold out by Australia and the international community.

It is not that any of the slaughter that is occurring is a surprise. Any person with knowledge of East Timor said the slaughter would happen immediately the result was announced. It was clear the Indonesian Government had no interest in suppressing or controlling the militias roaming the country. We all now know that the situation is far more insidious: It is not simply the militias that are engaged in the genocide. I believe that Indonesia has a very real game plan. Even if Indonesia has decided that it will ultimately lose control of East Timor, it wants to ensure that it suppresses the separatist movements in Aceh, Irian Jaya and other outlying provinces. The Indonesian Government wants to ensure that these communities understand that if they want independence, it will not simply be a matter of gaining support for a referendum from the international community. Independence will be gained in these provinces only if there is a bloodbath. This is a personal point of view, and does not necessarily reflect the view of the Opposition. I am not convinced that this position is not tacitly supported at the highest level by the United States and Australia. These are major considerations. These Governments do not want a general disintegration of Indonesia. How can we once again ask the East Timorese to pay such an extraordinary price for the stability of Indonesia?

Australia is in the process of betraying the East Timorese for the third time. We betrayed them first in 1943 when the 2nd/2nd and 2nd/4th commando units finally left East Timor after violating East Timor's neutrality in the Second World War. Notwithstanding that 60 000 East Timorese died protecting Australian soldiers and Australian lives, and we told them when we left that we would not forget them, for the next 30 years we did virtually nothing for them. We made few efforts to assist East Timor in its development and decolonisation. In 1975 we betrayed East Timor again. We condoned the invasion of East Timor and then we acknowledged its incorporation into Indonesia. For the third time, and some might argue this is the worst instance, we set these people up big time. We created a process which every commentator was aware would ultimately end in a massacre if it were not accompanied by an international peace enforcement unit. Knowing that would happen we set up this process so we could say that we were doing the right thing. At the end of the day we were not prepared to deliver what was absolutely necessary to provide an opportunity for the East Timorese people to not only exercise their right of self-determination but also survive as a people. A peacekeeping force is not needed, because there is no peace to keep in East Timor. We need a peace enforcement operation, just as we had in Kosovo and Somalia.

Arguments have been raised against that, and we need Indonesia's agreement. The United Nations cannot violate the sovereignty of Indonesia. The UN does not recognise Indonesia's domain over East Timor and never has. There are many instances of the UN moving into a peace enforcement role - which is what is required in East Timor - where it does not ask the perpetrators of a massacre for permission to enter that country to end the genocide. The motion is a small part of the process. Hopefully, it will send a message to the Australian Government that the people of Western Australia are not prepared to desert East Timor again. I hope it will convey to the Prime Minister that we do believe in mateship and mates do not come any better than the East Timorese. The East Timorese laid down 60 000 of their lives for us in 1942 and 1943 and it is outrageous that we are not prepared to support them in their hour of need. I thank the Government for its support of this motion. It may not agree with all the sentiments I have expressed, but I hope the essence of this message goes forth.

MR COURT (Nedlands - Premier) [3.14 pm]: The Government seconds the motion. East Timor is a close neighbour of

ours and has had some difficult times over the past 30 years. The violence that is occurring, following a democratic vote on whether the East Timorese want independence, is unacceptable. The Federal Government has the prime responsibility for foreign affairs. Yesterday the national security council of Cabinet met and placed the Australian troops in Darwin and Townsville on a 24-hour alert. The Prime Minister spoke to President Habibie last night and was advised that Indonesia would impose martial law, or what the Indonesians call "emergency military law", in East Timor. If that does not work, the Indonesians may be willing to allow an international security force into East Timor to help restore law and order. I cannot make a judgment on how best to go about restoring law and order. However, as a nation and neighbour, Australia has a responsibility to assist in this process. It is not an easy situation, although it is often made out to be. A number of different pressures have existed within East Timor from the time it was a Portuguese colony to the time of Indonesian involvement. More recently the Indonesians have followed a deliberate policy, a "go east policy", to try to populate and develop more of East Timor. The outcome of the vote will make the task ahead for East Timor a difficult one, but Australia has a role to play. More than 1 000 East Timorese reside in Western Australia, with a much larger community in the Northern Territory.

The Government supports the motion, which says that Indonesia should honour the vote for independence in peace. We deplore the violence currently being perpetrated on the East Timorese people. There is a need for the Australian Government to be part of a force to assist to restore law and order but, just as important, to assist that country to move ahead and to develop in a way that will benefit all of the people.

MR PENDAL (South Perth) [3.17 pm]: I will make a few brief comments to support the motion. In particular, I congratulate the member for Armadale, firstly, for moving the motion; and, secondly, for what she was prepared to do by her physical presence in East Timor last week. In a bipartisan sense it reflects well not only on the member and her party, but also on Parliament as a whole because it has had the capacity to produce people such as that member who are prepared to come to the aid of people in our near region who desperately need that moral assistance. Sadly, Australia has a long and not very proud record of selling out the rights of the smaller regional powers adjacent to it. East Timor is but one of these. For example, we had the chance to take a stance against the so-called reabsorption of Hong Kong into China. We failed to take that chance, probably because the mood was set by the then British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who, in a manner I could never understand, saw a difference between people who had grown up culturally as part of the British speaking peoples in Hong Kong and the people of the Falkland Islands. Our region will face a similar moral dilemma in the not too distant future with Taiwan. Enormous pressure is growing in China for it to absorb Taiwan into a one-China reality. The fact is that the Taiwanese people - and indeed many of the people from Hong Kong and an overwhelming number of people from East Timor - want the right to determine locally how and by whom they are governed. The fact that in the past we have let down the East Timorese people, together with the people from Hong Kong, is no reason that we should automatically arrive at the destination of letting down the Taiwanese. The Taiwanese, like the other people, are as fiercely and locally independent as it is possible to be. It is a sad occasion on which we must even express some of these views because one would not have thought that Indonesia, struggling of its own accord to abide by democratic principles, would see fit, via Jakarta, to make the attacks and allow the outrages that have occurred in East Timor particularly in the past week but also in recent months.

It crossed my mind that there should be a brief amendment to the motion but, in order not to complicate it, I will resist the temptation to move an amendment. The motion would have been much stronger had it contained words to the effect that the motion should be conveyed by the Speaker to appropriate government and parliamentary authorities in Jakarta and in regional assemblies. It is a decent and noble thing for this House to express a point of view; it is quite another for it to fail in this case to ensure that those sentiments are conveyed to the people where they will most count. Notwithstanding that the motion will not be amended in that way, I hope that the Speaker, as someone who speaks for us all, will see the value once the motion is passed of ensuring that it is conveyed to the right authorities so that the Indonesians can understand the depth of the anger felt within the Australian community, and particularly in the Western Australian community. It is perhaps not sufficiently realised that East Timor and that part of the world, to which the member for Armadale was a recent visitor, are closer to Western Australia than is the city of Melbourne. We are not talking about a country that is geographically remote from WA.

The final point I make is that the Premier rightly said, in his support of the motion, that the principal or major responsibility for matters of this kind rests with the Federal Government in Australia. That is true, but also the Western Australian Government has enormous capacity to influence events. As has been demonstrated time and again, it is not just national Governments that have the power and facility to change the opinions of people in other countries. Regional governments and assemblies, such as this Parliament, have the capacity, if they choose to use it, to change the direction of the thinking in other countries and communities. The Western Australian Government, with its very strong and lucrative ties with Jakarta and regional Indonesia, might consider expressing its own sense of despair at what is going on.

Why do we have sister-state relationships after all? It is because they help build up a level of confidence between the two communities concerned. Why do we want to do that? The only possible reason for building up confidence and respect for each other is that when the day comes that one State needs to speak honestly, it will be listened to earnestly. The Western Australian Government and Parliament have the real capacity to change some of the thinking in not only regional Indonesia, but also the national capital. We go to all sorts of proper and correct lengths to enhance the regional state to state relationships. The day has arrived when we need to call on some of the goodwill that has been built up, and say to the Indonesian authorities that there may be a penalty if they continue to treat the East Timorese people as they have been doing. If that means that Western Australia must consider closing its state trade offices, it should be a serious consideration. In the end, it has often been noted that the biggest weapon in our armoury, or in anyone's armoury, is not the weaponry that has been used in the past 10 days, but is the weapon of economic clout. There is no doubt that Western Australia has a considerable reservoir of that clout in Indonesia nationally and at a regional level.

Therefore, those two factors should be borne in mind as we pass this resolution: Firstly, the Speaker should seek to convey the beliefs of this House of Parliament to our near neighbours; and, secondly, the Government, which has shown a generous capacity today to make this a bipartisan issue, should give serious consideration to saying to the Indonesian authorities, to the extent to which it is of any impact, that Western Australia will consider reducing or closing the trade links if the Indonesians do not respect the vote that took place in East Timor last Monday. I support the motion.

DR GALLOP (Victoria Park - Leader of the Opposition) [3.28 pm]: I support the motion moved by the member for Armadale. It deals with what can best be regarded as the foreign policy of Australia, but on occasions State Parliaments can legitimately comment on these matters. This is one such occasion, for two reasons. The first, which was outlined clearly by the member for Armadale, is that Western Australia has a special connection with East Timor because of the link between the history of that country and Australia's history in the Second World War. The second connection is that many East Timorese live in Australia, and indeed in Western Australia. More East Timorese live in the Northern Territory than in Western Australia but, nevertheless, they have played a role in our society. The East Timorese are part of our society and we respect them because of their traditions, values and culture. It follows from that that we should show an interest in their future.

The motion asks members to support the right of the East Timorese people to not only exercise a vote for independence but also be able to live in peace. The exact opposite has happened, and it represents a major tragedy because every indication was given that the East Timorese could exercise that vote and that a vote for independence would be followed by a transitional process to independence. We know that 78 per cent of the East Timorese voted for independence, but since then it appears that the militia groups have been roaming around East Timor terrorising people in the aftermath of that vote.

The second part of the motion calls on the Australian Government to take every step possible to protect the lives of the East Timorese as a matter of urgency. Many steps can be taken by which we should be able to restore some peace to the area as quickly as possible. A lot of time has been lost already, and this task will be difficult. The tragedy, as the member for Armadale stated, is that the expectation was given that the vote would be honoured in peace, and be backed up by peacekeepers. Unfortunately, that expectation has not been fulfilled, which is a shameful episode. We can only hope that, despite the misjudgment made, we can recover the situation as soon as possible. I join other members in supporting the motion, and I hope that steps can be taken as soon as possible to restore peace and properly honour East Timor's vote for independence.

MR HOUSE (Stirling - Minister for Primary Industry) [3.31 pm]: I rise on behalf of the National Party and to indicate my personal support for the motion. My personal view is that it would have been in Australia's best interests for Indonesia to stay as one country. However, I absolutely respect the right of groups of people to exercise a vote for independence, as occurred in this case. We, as Australians, should respect that action.

Indonesia, with a population of 180 million people, is a huge country and, as our nearest neighbour, it plays an important part in the politics of the region. It has an impact on the life of all Australians, particularly Western Australians. Reflecting upon matters important to Australians, we would put peace above all other issues, put food and sustenance second, and probably place shelter third. We have lived as a fortunate generation. The so-called baby boomers have lived in an era of relative peace in the world. Outbreaks of violence have occurred in Korea and Vietnam and there have been other notable examples, but those have been on a smaller scale than the First and Second World Wars. It is hard for us to understand what it is like to live with a daily threat to one's life and the possessions for which one has worked, and to have one's family, friends and relatives killed by people who are supposed to keep the peace. The Western Australian Government must do all it can to reflect the point of view rightly held by most of our constituents; that is, to indicate clearly to the Government of Indonesia that we do not support the actions taken in East Timor. We respect the right of the East Timorese to an independent future, and we will do what we can to support that future.

As the member for South Perth stated, one can exert influence from outside a country in a number of ways. The Australian Government must consider what it can do, and convey a very strong message to the Indonesian Government that, if necessary, those actions will be taken. It is absolutely right that the views of this Parliament should be conveyed to the Australian Government. It is important that this motion be supported unanimously indicating our support for individualism, peace and people's right to go about their business as individuals and in groups with an independent future. I support the motion.

MR McGOWAN (Rockingham) [3.34 pm]: I join the member for South Perth in congratulating the member for Armadale for standing up for what she believes, and for going to the area in what appeared to be dangerous and difficult circumstances. I heard the member for Armadale on radio: She was brazen in her views on some of the militia and the activities in East Timor at this time. Australia should do whatever is possible to assist the East Timorese in achieving their aims and ambitions.

Western Australia has a very close association with the people of that region. I remember on an occasion being on a patrol boat heading towards Indonesia, which is remarkably close to Australia. If one visits Ashmore, Scott and some of the other reefs between Australia and Indonesia, one will see Indonesian fishing vessels in the area powered only by sail and without any navigational equipment. This indicates the closeness of the region to Australia and Western Australia, and how we have a direct interest in the future of the area. We must take a proactive role to ensure that stability, fairness and justice is achieved for people in the area.

I have another connection with Indonesia in that my brother-in-law has lived there for a number of years. He will return shortly. He is dismissive of the Indonesian Government because he believes that a small minority exploit a large majority in that country. In his view, the further one moves from Java, the greater the exploitation of the people of the Indonesian

Archipelago. Experiences he relayed to me indicate that after the 25-year campaign waged by the people of East Timor, who had their hopes dramatically lifted by the overwhelming vote last week in support of independence, the Indonesian Government should come good and give those people a degree of self-determination in the interests of justice and fairness.

I go further: Just as pressing is the future of Irian Jaya, which was acquired by Indonesia in circumstances roughly similar to those in East Timor in the early 1960s, prior to which it was a colonial territory of a European power. It is also geographically separate and has distinct cultural differences from the rest of Indonesia. It should be given similar consideration to that given to East Timor. It is possible to have different nations in the area. I refer to the obvious example of Brunei, which occupies part of Borneo. It is possible to have independent countries in that region, particularly when they have distinct cultural, racial and geographical differences and a will for self-determination. I support the motion. This should be part of an ongoing process. It is in everyone's interest that justice and democracy prevail in the region.

MS MacTIERNAN (Armadale) [3.39 pm]: I thank all members for their support. I hope that you, Mr Speaker, heard the comments of the member for South Perth asking you to consider forwarding this motion to the Australian Government and to various Indonesian representatives in Jakarta. It would be a very important thing to do. I stress that this is a matter of greatest urgency because people are dying as we speak. This is not a theoretical issue. We must act now.

Question put and passed.

The SPEAKER: I indicate to members that I listened to the debate and will probably forward an appropriate letter to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP

Standing Orders Suspension

On motion by Mr Barnett (Leader of the House), resolved with an absolute majority -

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as will allow the Minister for the Environment to move a motion in respect of the disposal or the proposed disposal of nuclear waste material in remote areas of Western Australia.

Motion

MRS EDWARDES (Kingsley - Minister for the Environment) [3.42 pm]: I move -

That this House notes -

- (i) the Premier's statement that foreign nuclear waste should not be stored in Western Australia;
- (ii) that the Premier's stand reflects the broader public opposition throughout Western Australia to any such proposal;
- (iii) the comments by the Director and Operations Manager of Pangea Resources Australia Pty Ltd, Mr Marcis Kurzeme, in *The West Australian* newspaper of 24 August 1999, to the effect that Pangea will abandon its idea to locate an international nuclear waste repository in Western Australia if the proposal meets with continued public opposition; and
- (iv) expresses its total opposition to any proposal from any person or company to situate an international nuclear waste repository in Western Australia on the grounds that such a repository poses a significant threat to Western Australia's environment and public safety.

By raising this motion the Government reinforces what it has said on a number of occasions - that is, that as a matter of principle, the Government does not support international nuclear waste being dumped in Western Australia. There is no way that the Government would accept that proposal.

Dr Gallop: What do you mean by the Government - the current Government or a future Government?

Mrs EDWARDES: We are making our statement very clear. On a number of occasions the Leader of the Opposition has asked what is our position on this matter. Equally, on a number of occasions we have stated publicly what our position is. I have introduced this motion so that the Parliament can express its opposition to the proposal.

Dr Gallop: You will support our legislation then.

Mrs EDWARDES: We have not seen it yet.

I will go through the background of how nuclear waste material is disposed of in Western Australia. When in government, the Opposition established the waste disposal site at Mt Walton East, north east of Coolgardie. It was opened in 1992 and is currently managed by Waste Management WA under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act. It primarily stores medical and industrial low level radioactive waste. The use and disposal of radioactive substances is controlled by an independent body, the Radiological Council. This independent body was established under the authority of the Radiation Safety Act 1975. Section 35 of that Act states that the council assesses independently how radioactive waste is disposed of. The Act states that radioactive substance, irradiating apparatus or electronic product be disposed of under the authority of a disposal permit granted by the council.

The Act also states -

. . . the Council shall make recommendations and regulations may be made by the Governor in respect to the following matters . . .

- (k) the use of premises or places, the health of persons employed, the storage or disposal of radioactive substances or waste, the maximum discharge limits which shall not be exceeded, and the protection of the environment;

In addition, the Nuclear Activities Regulation Act 1978 regulates and controls nuclear activities, including the formulation and adoption of codes of practice for nuclear activities. The Act was promulgated in respect of the expected development, which has never eventuated, of the Yeelirrie uranium mine in the late 1970s. A section in the Act requires an annual report to Parliament by the minister responsible for the administration of the Act, the Minister for Energy. My understanding is that this has never occurred because once the Yeelirrie project fell over there was no need to report on the administration of the Act. The object of the Act is to make provision for protecting the health and the safety of the people of the State, and the environment, from possible harmful effects associated with nuclear activities. Under the Act, as I said earlier, the minister may arrange for the formulation of codes of practice for regulating or controlling nuclear activities in the State.

Australia is a signatory to international covenants and treaties. The Basel convention, although it deals with the transport and removal of waste, does not deal with nuclear waste; that is specifically excluded. Australia is also a signatory to the convention on the safety of spent fuel management and on the safety of radioactive waste management, although Australia has not yet ratified it. Successive Australian Governments have consistently asserted that Australia should not accept radioactive wastes from other countries. That was reaffirmed by the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources, Senator Nick Minchin. Further, to re-emphasise the current Commonwealth Government's position, a report from the Commonwealth Government titled "National Radioactive Waste Repository Site Selection Study - Phase 3" deals with the selection process for a national waste repository in the Roxby Downs area. Page 11, paragraph 2, states that the Federal Government's policy of prohibiting the importation and disposal of other countries' radioactive waste is absolute. Therefore, there is no doubt that the Federal Government is firm in its commitment to not accept the depositing of international nuclear waste in Australia. This motion allows this Parliament to give a very clear indication also that we will not accept international radioactive waste in Western Australia.

The process that I have gone through outlining the Acts and regulations in existence in Western Australia highlights that the process to gain permission to store radioactive waste is complex. First, the proponent would need to satisfy the independent Radiological Council, under the provisions of the Radiation Safety Act 1975, that it should be granted permission to store the waste. It would then need to send its proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority for a formal environmental impact assessment under the auspices of the Environmental Protection Act 1986. Similarly, it would need to get a licence to operate from the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency under the provisions of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1988. Furthermore, it would then need commonwealth approval under the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974. From 16 July 2000 the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act will come into force. This Act will have specific provisions relating to nuclear facilities. That Act will give the Commonwealth the power to prevail over inconsistent state laws. Therefore, from 16 July 2000 one further hurdle will need to be jumped. From a legislative and constitutional point of view, any proposal would need to go through a number of steps.

I want also to highlight in support of this motion the environmental issues associated with high level radioactive nuclear waste. Those issues are extensive. Clearly the importation, transportation, disposal and storage of radioactive waste raise significant environmental issues.

The importation would involve hazards associated with shipping. Relevant to any environmental assessment is the risk to the marine environment - we have a strong fishing industry in and around Western Australia; public safety; not the least occupational safety; and, of course, the occupational safety and health of the port authorities during the unloading of the waste from ships and reloading it onto land-based transport facilities. Transport risks would occur during handling and would affect occupational safety and health, public health and the convenience, comfort and amenity of the public, including communities along the route. That issue was debated several years ago in relation to the transport of toxic waste to Mt Walton. Further risks would arise from the exposure of people and the environment to these wastes. The problems associated with disposal and storage would include potential risk to the community and the environment far into the future, long term management of waste, guarantees of safety, constraints on land use and liability in the event of an accident in which the waste was not contained.

Not the least significant issue is the considerable community concern generated by discussion of the proposal by Pangea Resources Australia in the public arena. Significant community concern has been expressed over the storing of high-level nuclear waste, particularly as that waste will be generated overseas. Considerable concern also relates to the environmental risk attached to nuclear waste and there is adverse community perception about the possible contamination of areas near nuclear waste transport and disposal activities.

Public opinion has clearly demonstrated that the people of Western Australia do not want high-level nuclear waste to be imported from overseas and dumped in Western Australia. In moving this motion the Government agrees with the sentiment of the community. It does not support any such proposal from any person or company. In fact, the Government is asking this Parliament to express its opposition to any proposal from any person or company to situate an international nuclear waste repository in Western Australia on the grounds that it will pose a significant threat to Western Australia's community, public safety and the environment.

I ask all members of the House to support the motion.

MR BARRON-SULLIVAN (Mitchell) [3.53 pm]: It is interesting that we are indulging in this debate today even though there is no formal proposal before the Government for a nuclear waste repository or dump in this State. Nonetheless, the timing of this motion is extremely important. There is no doubt whatsoever that it warrants the total support of this House.

I understand that the only nuclear waste repository in this State is at Mt Walton, north east of Coolgardie. I believe it was established by the then Labor Government in 1992. I do not say that by way of criticism. It handles the disposal of only low-level radioactive waste which I understand is principally from hospitals and various areas within industry.

The Mt Walton facility is managed under the Environmental Protection Act. The feedback I have heard is that it is a necessary facility and it is managed adequately. From what can be ascertained from newspaper reports and other information we can glean from this proposal, Mt Walton is a far cry from the proposal of Pangea Resources Australia, which involves high-level nuclear waste. It is important to note that the source of that nuclear waste would be overseas. In a nutshell, this proposal would involve foreign nations dumping their highly toxic nuclear waste in the outback, in our backyard. Not only would this pose a very long-term and severe pollution threat at the site of disposal, but also there are some real concerns about the transportation of this waste material at sea, off our ports and shores, entering our ports, and on our road and rail systems.

It is no wonder that there is such widespread and strong concern about the proposal that Western Australians have read about in recent months in newspapers and seen on their television screens. Despite the fancy colour graphics the Pangea Resources public relations spin doctors have circulated and on which it has no doubt spent much money to smooth the waters and generate public support for the idea of a dump for international nuclear waste in our backyard, there is no doubt whatsoever that the community is very much opposed to this proposal. So far, the company's public relations have been a dismal failure. In fact, I suggest they have highlighted the concerns the community has about this proposal.

I believe Western Australians are exceedingly proud of their State. There is no doubt whatsoever that they want to maintain the State's image as a clean and unpolluted place that attracts tourists. That is certainly the case in the south west, whether it be in the Bunbury area, Busselton or throughout Margaret River, which areas people jealously regard as premier tourist destinations.

Also, importantly, the community wants to protect the State's reputation as a producer of clean and safe horticultural and agricultural produce. We in the south west, from where I hail, although it is a long way from the outback where any proposed nuclear waste dump would be situated, guard that reputation with all our might. A threat to the State's reputation as a clean producer, albeit from a facility located in the outback, would have a detrimental impact throughout the State, including the south west, and certainly on overseas markets.

This motion moved by the Minister for the Environment has a very deep significance principally for two reasons. Firstly, people are looking for a clear, unequivocal expression of government policy that opposes any proposal of this nature. However, people are looking for more than that. I strongly believe that in the democratic process we are elected to represent our constituencies. People have asked me about my position on this proposal and when I explained to them there is no specific proposal, but that in principle I am opposed to it, their next question is: "What will the Government do about it?"

The obvious point here today is that we have an opportunity, through this Parliament, to do something very firm and to support community opinion, which is very strong within every electorate in this State and throughout Western Australia.

The second reason this motion has a deep significance is that the company involved, Pangea Resources, has made it clear that it will abandon its ideas to locate a nuclear waste repository in Western Australia if the proposal meets with continued public opposition. The motion sources that statement to one of the directors, who is also the operations manager of Pangea Resources and who made public comments last month when the company was in the throes of organising a public relations splurge on this matter.

It is encouraging that the minister has made a firm statement, on behalf of the Government, of opposition to this proposal. That will go a long way towards meeting community expectations, and it will also send a firm message to Pangea Resources, particularly in light of the comments made last month by its operations manager. Nothing would do more to give Pangea the message that its proposal lacks community support than if this Parliament, not just the Government, were to support a motion in this form. A unanimous vote by the elected representatives of every lower House seat in this State which expressed broad public opposition could in no way be misinterpreted by Pangea, or by any corporation, agency or Government around the world which might be viewing our outback as a potential waste dump for its nuclear throwaways. In a nutshell, it would send the simple message to Pangea to go away.

The support of the House for this motion would also embrace firmly the views of the vast majority of Western Australians. That is an interesting point, because it is rare in politics to have an issue on which the community is not polarised to a fair degree. In the recent debates about the Regional Forest Agreement, and in debates about issues such as the legalisation of abortion, the community was firmly polarised; strong opinions were held by people on both sides of the fence. In this case, the community that I represent overwhelmingly opposes the notion of Western Australia becoming an international nuclear waste dump and there is little polarisation, if any, on this issue. I believe there is no other issue on which this Parliament could obtain greater bipartisan support for a position which meets those broad community expectations. This motion goes one step further by condemning any proposal, either now or in the future, which involves the dumping of nuclear waste in our outback or anywhere else in this State.

It is probably important to emphasise that it is not irresponsible to take that position. Some companies may argue that Western Australia has a global responsibility to accept nuclear waste, or at least to consider this proposal favourably. However, there is no global crisis or worldwide pressure for the global community to find an alternative place for the

dumping of nuclear waste. The countries that currently rely extensively on nuclear power, operate nuclear fleets or engage in extensive high toxicity nuclear testing and so forth have made arrangements for the dumping of nuclear waste. We should be very reluctant to roll over with our tummies in the air simply because a private company, albeit with the backing of an overseas Government, tells us it wants to use our outback for the dumping of nuclear waste. There is no international crisis with nuclear waste. Were this House to support this motion, we could in no way be accused of being insensitive to global needs or irresponsible in a global sense. Were this House to support this motion on a bipartisan basis, we would be expressing the will of the vast majority of Western Australians, certainly the vast majority of the people in my electorate, that this proposal not proceed even to first base, let alone past it. The minister gave a very good summary earlier of all the legislative and technical requirements that a company like Pangea must meet to obtain approval. I and my constituents do not want to see this proposal get onto the first rung of the ladder. This motion would prevent that from happening. This motion has my strongest support, and I call on the House to give its bipartisan support to the position of the Premier and to the motion moved by the Minister for the Environment on behalf of the Government of Western Australia.

MR COURT (Nedlands - Premier) [4.04 pm]: This motion should not be necessary. The Government has made its position clear on many occasions. In question time today, once again the Leader of the Opposition asked whether the Agent General in London had talked -

Mr Ripper: Did he? Have you checked?

Mr COURT: I have not left this chair; but so what if he did?

Dr Gallop: So what! He is a representative of the Government!

Mr COURT: How petty can the Leader of the Opposition get!

Dr Gallop: Why do you think Pangea has set up shop over here?

Mr COURT: The nuclear industry is a very big industry in Mr Blair's - the Leader of the Opposition's friend - country.

Mr Ripper: Is he not your friend as well?

Mr COURT: I do not know Mr Blair. I am sure he is a lovely chap. He is the Prime Minister of a great country. This is the great open and accountable Labor Party! It is very open! Discuss these matters! I do not know what has happened to the Labor Party in recent years, but it has become policy bereft, and now it is even afraid of people talking about nuclear-related matters. I will talk to anyone who wants to talk to me about these matters.

Dr Gallop: Have you talked to anyone about it?

Mr COURT: No, I have not.

Mr Ripper: You will talk to Pangea then, will you?

Mr COURT: Is anything wrong with talking to Pangea?

Dr Gallop: I am asking whether you have.

Mr COURT: This is just crazy!

Mr Ripper: Will you talk to Pangea?

Mr COURT: I have not met with people from Pangea Resources Australia and I have no intention of talking to Pangea.

Dr Gallop: Have you met any of its representatives?

Mr COURT: No, I have not.

Dr Gallop: Have you met any of its consultants?

Mr COURT: Tell me who its consultants are.

Dr Gallop: Have you met Fletcher?

Mr COURT: Yes, I have.

Dr Gallop: On this issue?

Mr COURT: No. On some days I have met him up to 10 times. So what! How pathetic can the Leader of the Opposition get! He is running around chasing -

Dr Gallop: Why is Pangea setting up shop here?

Mr COURT: That is its business. We now have a motion in the Parliament saying this House does not want that sort of business here, so we now have an opportunity to have a vote and put it on the record. However, as I have said, it is really not necessary, because the Government has no intention of supporting this proposal, and the Opposition is saying it has no intention of supporting it, but -

Dr Gallop: It is in our policy. We have a policy on it. Where is your policy on it?

Mr COURT: It would be a very dangerous policy for the Leader of the Opposition to stop listening to people who want to

talk to him. The member for South Perth knows that if he wants to talk to me about nuclear dumps or whatever, I will willingly listen and talk to him.

Dr Gallop: What are you saying to him? That is the question!

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mrs Hodson-Thomas): Order, members! The Hansard reporter must be having a great deal of difficulty hearing the Premier.

Mr COURT: I will be going to London in a couple of weeks to take part in a major trade promotion of Western Australian food products, in particular, at Selfridges department store. Our produce is being promoted very much under a clean-green image, and our produce is gaining a tremendous foothold in that market. It would be absolute suicide for this State to go -

Dr Gallop: Then why do members on your side of politics keep encouraging Pangea?

Mr COURT: A Labor Government established a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia in 1992; and, what is more, nuclear waste was dumped there! Shame on it! This is how silly it is! Do I get up and make a big issue about the fact that the Labor Party established a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia?

Dr Gallop: You are now!

Mr COURT: Perhaps I am. The point I want to make is that in 1992, the Labor Party established a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia. Shock, horror! The Leader of the Opposition knows as well as I do that we use a lot of nuclear objects in our day-to-day lives, whether it is in medical science, in some of the equipment we use or in some of the mining activities that take place. Members of the Opposition know that.

Dr Gallop: Of course we do.

Mr COURT: We supported the Opposition when it established the facility at Mt Walton. Did we run around at that time saying, "Shock, horror! The Labor Party has established a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia"? No, we were responsible. The Opposition is trying to build up something that will not happen.

Dr Gallop: It is just like the Midland Workshops and the gold royalty.

Mr COURT: Will our supporting the motion give the Opposition any security?

Dr Gallop: No, none at all.

Mr COURT: If we support a motion which expresses its total opposition to any proposal from any person or company to situate an international waste repository in Western Australia -

Mr Ripper interjected.

Mr COURT: How would I know what is in the Opposition's legislation?

That is the first point I wanted to make about our image in the primary produce we are selling. The second area relates to tourism. There is no doubt that quality of life is becoming a huge selling point for tourism in this State. We are in a unique situation: There are less than two million people in this State; it is a huge State; and it has a wonderful environment. All of the surveys that we have conducted within Australia and overseas indicate that the State's clean image, blue skies and free spirit are our major selling point. Why would we want to damage that?

Dr Gallop: You should ask Barry Haase and the Minister for Resources Development.

Mr COURT: Members of the Opposition have an obligation to be responsible when debating these issues. They have decided that there is political advantage in building up a scare campaign. That campaign has no credibility and it will backfire on them. The Government has made its position clear. Is that the best the Opposition can do to try to generate a bit of an issue? If we wanted to run a scare campaign, we would remind people that the Labor Party established a nuclear waste dump in this State. We will not do that because we are taking a responsible position that there is a need to properly handle the waste which is generated in this country. Most of that waste relates to medical equipment. It is frustrating when the Opposition is so irresponsible as to continually imply that something will happen, when it knows only too well that it will not happen. The Opposition's credibility is at stake.

DR GALLOP (Victoria Park - Leader of the Opposition) [4.13 pm]: Many Western Australians are puzzled because the Premier keeps telling us that the Government is opposed to the establishment of a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia. However, at the same time the Premier is telling us that, the company that is considering Western Australia as a possible site for a nuclear waste dump is setting up an office in Western Australia. That appears to be strange. Members of the Labor Party discussed this matter at our conference. We discussed policy issues and laid down policy questions and provided a framework which all of us in this Parliament are obliged to carry through. This is real policy debate which, when we reach a conclusion, binds Labor members. Our position is clear: We would prohibit the importation of radioactive waste into Western Australia.

We have an absolutely clear position that all Labor members are obliged to adhere to. The Government says that it is opposed to a nuclear waste dump, yet Pangea Resources Australia set up an office in Western Australia. That seems strange. I remember 1993 only too well. Before the 1993 election, the then shadow Minister for Transport went to Midland and assured all the workers that the Midland Workshops would not close after the election. I also remember the 1996 election. The Government went into the goldfields of this State and assured the people that there would not be a gold royalty. The

Government said that it was just scaremongering by the Opposition, and said it in this Parliament when we moved motions to that effect. After the election, a gold royalty was introduced. I think we are entitled to be a little sceptical of this Government when it comes to promises it makes.

However, let us go further into our analysis and look at the dynamics of the Liberal Party and what is happening with this proposal. At the federal level of the Liberal Party, prominent Western Australian Liberals are coming out in favour of consideration of this nuclear waste dump proposal. Indeed, only last week the federal member for Kalgoorlie joined Senator Lightfoot in advocating serious consideration of this matter. The Minister for Resources Development has also said that if we export uranium, which he favours, we should enter into the debate about the disposal of the waste. Senior Liberals outside this Parliament are actively supporting the notion that we should consider this proposal. Significant interests within the Liberal Party in this Parliament, in the national Parliament and also outside the Parliament are backing the proposal to give this serious consideration. One cannot blame Pangea when it says, "There is a bit of hope in Western Australia. Despite what the Premier is saying publicly, let us set up an office and see what we can do about establishing a nuclear waste dump."

I assure members that the Opposition remains very sceptical about this issue. We have learnt in relation to the Midland Workshops and the gold royalty that what the Premier says about matters that are politically contentious at the time may change after an election that returns his party to government. It is the Government of Western Australia which is playing games on this issue; not the Opposition.

Mr Court: Do you honestly think that any state or federal Government would give approval for this?

Dr GALLOP: I hope they would not. The Minister for Resources Development, who is the deputy leader of the Liberal Party, thinks it is worth considering; the member for Kalgoorlie in the Premier's federal caucus thinks it is worth considering; the man who the Premier sent to the Senate from our Upper House, Senator Lightfoot, thinks it is worth considering; and they are all on the Premier's side of politics. There are people from his ranks who are considering this issue very seriously.

We remain very sceptical about the Premier's public statements on this issue. With whom has the Premier discussed this issue? Has he discussed the matter with Ian Fletcher, his former chief of staff, who now works for Pangea?

Mr Court: I have not met any of the Pangea people.

Dr GALLOP: Has the Premier discussed the matter with Ian Fletcher?

Mr Court: No, not to discuss this matter. I have told you that I have met Ian Fletcher on many occasions, because he used to work in the room next door.

Dr GALLOP: Has the Premier ever discussed this matter with Mr Ian Fletcher?

Mr Court: Hang on.

Dr GALLOP: It is a simple question: Has the Premier ever discussed this matter with Mr Ian Fletcher?

Mr Court: Mr Fletcher has never lobbied me in relation to Pangea.

Dr GALLOP: Has he ever discussed the matter with the Premier?

Mr Court: Has he raised the name "Pangea"? He probably has; so what?

Dr GALLOP: He has, and he happens to work for Pangea. What did the Premier say to him about his raising Pangea with the Premier?

Mr Court: If I did not discuss it with him, how could I say anything to him?

Dr GALLOP: The Premier has not discussed it with him. He raised it with the Premier, but the Premier did not discuss it with him. It must have been a wonderful conversation! He raised Pangea but the Premier did not discuss it. It is the most controversial issue - so controversial that the Government of the day is on the run because the Opposition is doing the right thing on behalf of the people of Western Australia - and the Premier did not even discuss it with him, despite the fact that he raised it. The Premier told us that Mr Fletcher raised it with him. Where did he do that?

Mr Court: I told you - he has never lobbied or discussed Pangea with me, full stop.

Dr GALLOP: Has he raised the matter with you?

Mr Court: You asked whether he has mentioned the name Pangea and I said he probably has. However, he has never discussed it or lobbied me on it. What would it matter if he had?

Dr GALLOP: We on this side of the House are concerned that Pangea may have got a sniff of the possibility that it will be able to establish a nuclear waste dump. That is why I asked the question. Someone is telling Pangea that it is possible for it to happen. Who is doing that? No-one from the Labor Party is doing it! We have a clear policy on it. Let us look at the Liberal Party side of politics.

Mr Court: Have any of your people discussed it?

Dr GALLOP: They might have but I am not aware that any of my members have. There is a difference, which is called Labor Party policy. We have debated the matter and we have a policy which is binding on all members.

In setting up an office in Western Australia, Pangea obviously believes that there is enough support on the conservative side

of politics to justify the expenditure. Enough people in the Liberal Party have given it the impression that it might have a win on this issue. That is the puzzle. We will keep working away to find out why it thinks that. We will keep asking the Premier and the Government questions about the issue, just as we have done today. We will ask questions about the role of the Agent General in this issue. The Agent General is the representative of the Western Australian Government. He is not just a former Liberal living in England; he is the Agent General of our Government. We are very interested to know what he is saying to Pangea and to British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.

Mr Baker: What he is saying to them is irrelevant.

Dr GALLOP: Irrelevant is it? He is the representative of our Government in Britain and the Premier is telling me that it is irrelevant! We want to know what he is saying because it may be part of the answer to the puzzle of why Pangea would set up an office here?

Is it not interesting that the Government moved a motion on this issue in the Legislative Assembly? Will it do the same thing in the Legislative Council? There are two Houses in this Parliament. If the Government were serious about the issue, it would legislate so that future Governments, when considering the issue, would have to go through the Parliament of Western Australia, which speaks for the people.

What is the difference between the Parliament and the Government? What is the difference between the Legislative Assembly and the Parliament? The Government is formed in the Legislative Assembly. However, under our unique system, the Legislative Council has a different electoral system, and, therefore, there will always be a different makeup of members in that Chamber because of proportional representation. Our view is that, as a matter of principle, our position on this matter should be incorporated into legislation. We will move an amendment to the Premier's motion which will state that we should legislate on the matter. We will be interested to see the Premier's reaction.

The Minister for Resources Development has very clear views on this subject. He supports uranium mining in Western Australia. Does the Premier support it?

Mr Court: Certainly.

Dr GALLOP: So the Government of Western Australia supports uranium mining.

Mr Baker: As your federal predecessors did!

Dr GALLOP: The Western Australian Labor Party opposes uranium mining. We oppose it!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr GALLOP: It has always been our policy in Western Australia. The Minister for Resources Development has said that if we export uranium, which the Premier tells us his Government supports, it follows that we should participate in the debate on the matter. We on this side of the House have had our debate and we oppose it. We would like to incorporate into the motion our opposition to uranium exports from Western Australia.

Mr Court: Add iron ore as well.

Dr GALLOP: We want to make it absolutely clear that we are not part of the cycle which finishes up with nuclear waste. I think that that is a much clearer message to send to Pangea and British Nuclear Fuels than others.

In Western Australia today there is continuing pressure by Pangea to establish this facility because it is getting welcoming signals from some in the Liberal Party in this State and from some outside the parliamentary Liberal Party. The extent of those welcoming signals should be a matter for serious public investigation. We will continue to investigate this matter because companies like Pangea do not spend a lot of money without good reason. In the relationship between the current Government and Pangea there are enough positive signals to justify Pangea's investment. We will continue to ask questions of the Government about the issue.

Why is the Government doing this rather than supporting legislation which would lock the Parliament into opposing a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia? Any future Government or party that wanted to change that would have to go through both Houses of Parliament to do so. We look to the Government to support our amendment to its motion to make it clear that Parliament has a role in this matter.

If the people engaged in the nuclear power or weapons industries want a signal from Western Australia on its position, the clearest signal we can send is that we are opposed to uranium exports. It is the same signal as that sent by the Beattie Labor Party in Queensland before Queensland's last election. We will send the same message in the next Western Australian state election. If the Government is dinkum in not wanting to be part of the debate, it should move to the next logical step and state its opposition to uranium exports from Western Australia. I therefore move an amendment to the Government's motion.

Amendment to Motion

Dr GALLOP: I move -

That the following be inserted after the last paragraph -

However this House notes that any motion carried by this House is not binding on any Government, and therefore legislation banning the establishment of an international nuclear waste repository is required; and

notes the statement by the Minister for Resources Development that those countries that are "significant uranium producers" incur some moral and international responsibility towards the disposal of nuclear waste.

As Western Australia is currently not a uranium producer, the House expresses its opposition to the establishment of any uranium mining industry in the State.

DR EDWARDS (Maylands) [4.29 pm]: In October 1972 there was a full page advertisement in *The West Australian* relating to the SEC Loan (Western Australia) No 37. It stated -

Nuclear generation is our responsibility.

It urged all West Australians to put their money into the State Energy Commission of Western Australia loan and to have nuclear generation in the State.

I am pleased that the motion is in the Parliament today. Perhaps we can put to bed some of the myths that were generated in the 1970s and which have flowed through into the Liberal Party. The nuclear industry got off to a big start in the United Kingdom in the early 1970s. In 1976 in Britain a royal commission was held into radioactivity and the uranium industry. Lord Flowers' report stated that no search for ways to dispose of waste was going on. Even in 1976 waste disposal was identified as a big problem. The recommendation of that royal commission was if the Government could not find a way to deal with the waste it should stop the industry. Lord Flowers went further and said that it was morally wrong to continue the industry. The chickens are coming home to roost.

In recent times, Pangea Resources Australia has wheeled out its amazing proposal to come to outback Western Australia and to make our State the world's rubbish bin for radioactive waste. We have good reason to be worried. Radioactive waste of its nature is dangerous to us. Exposure can cause cancer and genetic abnormalities. Radioactive waste is hazardous. That is what all the fuss is about. On top of that are the environmental problems. Radioactive waste contains heavy metals, and is inherently toxic. People are concerned about plutonium and the fact that it hangs around for 10 000 years. However, that is not the real problem; plutonium is incredibly toxic to people. We are being asked to consider bringing to our State a cocktail of incredibly hazardous nuclear waste. Why are we being asked to do this when a British industry has operated since the 1970s and 23 years ago identified a problem with its waste? We are being asked to take the world's waste because nobody knows how to dispose of it safely. They want to bury it in our backyard, and because it will be out of sight, it will be out of mind and that will solve the world's problems with disposal.

What have people done in other countries? The United States has put forward a proposal for waste disposal in the Yucca Mountains. Each time the United States does some work it finds more problems, and the proposal is yet to get up and running. The start date has been moved further and further into the future. Canada has large nuclear mines and has looked at waste disposal for 20 years. It decided that it was not feasible to dispose of nuclear waste in Canada. Britain had planned to dispose of some of its nuclear waste in Cumbria, but it has decided that is not acceptable and it wants to send it elsewhere.

We are being told on this occasion that Pangea has a proposal and technology will come to the rescue. We cannot rely on technology in the outback to come to our rescue for tens of thousands of years. We were told that water treatment is incredibly safe, and that water supplies in the western world would always be safe. Who would have predicted the failure of water treatment technology in Sydney, or the Longford gas plant disaster where Victorians had cold showers for two weeks? Who would have predicted that the Auckland central business district would be without electricity for two weeks? Who would have predicted that such simple technology would fail? The real danger with this proposal is our trust that the technology will protect us from the problems of nuclear waste in the outback. It is impossible to predict so far into the future.

The other major issue is transportation, and the difficulties associated with shipping the waste to Western Australia, unloading it at the port facility and transporting it to its final destination. Transport accidents occur. I have seen a report on the Internet about a shipping accident that occurred a couple of days ago with nuclear waste near the coast of Japan. Transportation accidents do occur. They occur as a result of human error. We should not accept this waste knowing that other people do not know how to get rid of it, and want to off-load it from their countries.

One part of the proposal that really worries the Opposition relates to money. Access Economics' assessment of the Pangea proposal states that it will bring in \$300m each year directly to this State and \$90b over the life of the project. We are told that if we accept the world's nuclear waste for a finite lifespan of 40 years it will bring billions of dollars into the economy. The figures on the economic and employment situation in that document are staggering. The Opposition is worried that at some stage in the future a government will be attracted by those figures and will succumb to an assurance that technology can provide the answer and the risks can be managed. Not only do we need this motion, but also we need the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition. The motion, while welcome, is not good enough. It is not strong enough. It does not send a clear enough message. We need legislation, so that Pangea knows once and for all that it cannot come to Western Australia.

Why is Pangea persisting?

Mr Court: What happens if a future Government changes the legislation?

Dr EDWARDS: At least the Parliament will have the opportunity to debate it.

Mr Court: What is the sense of legislation if it can be changed?

Dr EDWARDS: It means that the whole Parliament will have a say. At the moment Governments could introduce this

without coming to the Parliament. That is a worry, and that is why we need legislation to send a message. If the Premier is keen on pushing this motion today, why is he worried about legislation? Why not take the step further?

Mr Court: You defeat your own argument by saying a future Government can change legislation just as this Government can.

Dr EDWARDS: Future Governments can change legislation. The Premier should grow up. What a silly comment to make. The Premier's comments bear out why the Opposition is worried that at some stage he might give in to Pangea. The Premier's father ran those arguments 27 years ago. Sir Charles Court said that we had a responsibility to get involved in nuclear power generation. Maybe it is something which runs through the genes. Who knows!

Pangea has stated that the opposition from Liberal ministers should be regarded as a pothole and not a roadblock. If Pangea says that, something else is going on that none of us knows about. When the proposition was first raised government members told us that we should not be silly, that it would not happen. Pangea is now moving its headquarters to Western Australia and various law and engineering firms in Western Australia work for Pangea. The Premier's former adviser was at one stage considering working for Pangea. How can we be reassured by those sentiments? It is an extremely serious situation. Pangea knows that if it can wear down resistance in the end it will win. It is big business and it is desperate. Pangea knows that it cannot go to Europe or to America to dispose of its waste. Where else can Pangea go?

Mr Court: Do you know who owns Pangea?

Dr EDWARDS: Does the Premier want me to go through the list?

Mr Court: It is the British Government.

Dr EDWARDS: The consortia comprises British Nuclear Fuels Ltd, a Swiss consortium and Golder Associates. The British Government is a large part of the problem. The fact that it will not dispose of the waste in its own country contributes to this.

The Australian Labor Party has been involved and worried about this issue for many years. In May this year it reaffirmed its commitment to prohibit the mining and export of uranium, and the importation of radioactive waste into Western Australia. Our record is clear and strong. We are firm on this issue. We will not budge. We welcome the Government's motion today. At last the Government has put something on the table. As politicians we are amazed it has taken so long. What has taken the Government so long? The Government needs to take the motion further. The motion will have no meaning unless the Government provides supporting legislation, and also bans uranium mining and strikes at the root of the problem.

MR MARSHALL (Dawesville - Parliamentary Secretary) [4.40 pm]: There is no doubt that the establishment of a nuclear dump in Western Australia is a concern. Last week in my electorate, the City of Mandurah declared that the city would become a nuclear-free zone. Councillor Keith Holmes rang and told me that the council intended to send me a letter about the decision, but he wanted to know where I stood. I wholeheartedly supported the council's motion. One does not have to be a brave person or a member of the Opposition to say that. When we are old enough to have grandchildren, we want those young children to have the same opportunities that we have had.

I have previously dealt with nuclear waste concerns. In 1993, when I contested the seat of Murray, one of the hot issues was the reopening of the French company Rhone Poulenc's operations. The company intended to refine monazite from the mineral sands in the south west to provide rare earth oxides. However, the resultant waste would be radioactive. That caused tremendous concern in the region. The operation was to be sited between Dwellingup and Pinjarra. The people of Dwellingup had worked hard to establish the area as a tourist destination. Money had been spent on a caravan park, a fine wood exhibition and a museum to offset the falling profits from the timber industry. That has a familiar ring to it. That area is now a booming tourist destination. The locals were concerned that their investment would be ruined as a result of radioactive material being transported past the town. The area has rainfall consistently better than that in any other part of the State and the local beef industry is one of the best in Western Australia because of the good feed available. The locals were concerned, rightly or wrongly, that trucks going past carrying radioactive waste would affect the cattle, the value of the land fell and people wanted to sell.

Western Australians do not want nuclear waste dumped in this State. We boast about our blue skies, clean air and space. I emphasise space because if members were to travel to the north west they would see many Europeans trekking in the area. They say how marvellous it is that they have not seen anyone for two days. They very much enjoy the freedom and not being jammed together as they are in Europe. This Government has spent large sums on advertising the area. Elle Macpherson has done a wonderful job promoting the beauty of the north.

Why should we change that? There is no reason to change it. Western Australia is the envy of the world. Nuclear waste being dumped in our State is definitely a no-no. We boast about having the cleanest waters and the best fishing grounds in the world. Prior to my election, for four successive years I travelled to Rosemary Island with the Game Fishing Club of Western Australia. The island is isolated about five or six kilometres from Dampier and visitors must take everything they need with them. We enjoyed some of the best fishing anyone could experience in beautiful, crystal clear waters. We have it all in this State.

If there is a danger - I say "if" because only the scientists can tell us what will happen, not emotional backbench members - why should we change the situation? I do not believe nuclear waste dumping in Western Australia is an issue because this Government has declared it does not want it. The people of Western Australia have declared that they do not want it. Why would the Government not listen to that? It is commonsense.

Many people have rung my electorate office over the past couple of weeks to talk about nuclear waste. I have been advising those callers that I am definitely against the dumping of nuclear waste in Western Australia. Someone wrote to the local newspaper asking what is the local member's opinion about a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia. It is easy to answer that question: I do not want it. I am adamant about that; no nuclear waste should be dumped in Western Australia. However, I do not agree that the issue should be the subject of legislation.

Mr Barron-Sullivan: Why?

Mr MARSHALL: We might want to legislate now, but in 20 years there might be a different approach. Members do not know what will happen in the future.

Mr Riebeling: We can then change the legislation.

Mr MARSHALL: It might be like the purification of water. Who knows? At the moment we do not want a nuclear dump in this State and we can put that on the record. However, we do not need to make that the subject of legislation because the legislation may have to be changed in the future. For that reason, I oppose the amendment. However, I support the motion moved by the Minister for the Environment.

MR OSBORNE (Bunbury) [4.46 pm]: I support the motion. I also congratulate the Minister for the Environment for moving it because it completely and adequately expresses the view of the Parliament, certainly that of members on this side. Western Australia should not become a repository for overseas nuclear waste. There is no reason for it to happen and it would be unjust if it were inflicted on the people of Western Australia.

I will pick up on some of the comments made by the member for Maylands and other members of the Opposition. They seem to believe that if they ignore the issue of nuclear energy and waste storage it will go away. I support the reported comments of the Minister for Resources Development that Australia and Western Australia have a responsibility to be involved in the debate. That does not mean we have any responsibility to accept the storage of intractable nuclear waste; it simply means we have a responsibility to be involved in the global public debate about what we will do with nuclear waste on the earth.

The fact remains that nuclear energy is with us. In some respects, it is essential. Nuclear research in medicine is very important and it cannot and will not be stopped. If we made a unilateral decision in this country to ignore the benefits of nuclear research, it would not make any difference to the global situation. Nuclear energy is a significant factor in countries like France, which produces about 80 per cent of its energy requirements from nuclear sources, and it will not stop doing that. Australia, which has very highly developed safeguards and technology -

Mr Riebeling: Higher than those in the nuclear industry in France?

Mr OSBORNE: No, in the safeguards area. I have been told that if a farmer took a bag of superphosphate into the Lucas Heights facility, he would not be able to remove it because of the protocols in place. There is a very small but measurable degree of radioactivity in a bag of superphosphate and the protocols in place at that facility would prohibit its removal.

As a leading technological nation, Australia has a responsibility to be involved in the global debate about nuclear waste. As citizens of the earth, we must face the fact that nuclear waste exists and that if countries such as France do not do something about it, it will pose a global threat. French nuclear tests in the Pacific are already a significant threat to this region. France is not as big a problem as some other countries in which nuclear proliferation is rife. The situation in Pakistan and India is of great concern. The level of safeguards and storage of intractable waste in those countries would be very poor. The former Soviet Union had a significant nuclear energy industry. The risk to the world from some of the politically unstable republics as a result of the lack of safeguards and appropriate storage of waste makes it imperative that a country such as Australia is involved in the debate.

I do not accept the suggestion I feel is coming from members opposite that we should not have anything whatsoever to do with this. We are involved in this whether we like it or not and we have a responsibility to bring whatever resources, intelligence and safeguards we can to the issue. I congratulate the Minister for the Environment for moving the original motion. I do not accept that we need to go further with legislation because the wording of the motion is adequate. It completely and clearly expresses the view of the public of Western Australia. It states -

That this House . . .

expresses its total opposition to any proposal from any person or company to situate an international nuclear waste repository in Western Australia . . .

Those words are completely clear and simply cannot be disregarded by any company such as Pangea Resources Australia. The original motion expresses the will of the House which follows public opinion in Western Australia. As long as the public opinion on this remains the same, companies like Pangea will never succeed in any proposal to bring a nuclear waste storage facility to Western Australia. For that reason, I believe it will simply not happen. In this motion the House is reflecting public opinion which sends a clear signal to a company like Pangea that we do not want its rubbish in this State and it should take the waste away and do something else with it.

Before I conclude, I will make some brief comments on the tourism industry. The Premier briefly touched on the importance of the tourism industry and I will pick up and amplify on his comments. Everyone in this place knows that the tourism industry is important to the economy of Western Australia. It has a most important role in providing employment to Western Australians. It is a significant factor in business growth in our economy and, speaking as a country member, it brings

benefits to country electorates. All the things tourism does for the Western Australian economy generally, it does particularly for country electorates. Many of the industries which are established in Western Australia are metropolitan based and are not able to be easily located in other parts of the State. However, tourism is an exception. It has terrific potential to provide employment and business growth in the regional areas of Western Australia. It keeps young people in the country so they do not have to go to the metropolitan area for employment or education; they can stay and build a lifestyle in their own areas which is good.

Mr Carpenter: Is that why you support an end to logging in old-growth forests?

Mr OSBORNE: That is a more complicated question. I know a great deal about the tourism industry.

Mr Carpenter: People love going down and watching those trees get cut down.

Mr OSBORNE: I will not get drawn into that issue. It has been conclusively dealt with and I have made my statement on it. I stand on my bona fides in the tourism industry which are at least as good as, if not superior to, those of the member for Willagee. Tourism needs good infrastructure; it needs roads and attractions, but most importantly it needs good promotion. The Western Australian Tourism Commission has been engaged in significant tourism promotion campaigns in recent years, both interstate and overseas, and these have been terrifically successful. In typical fashion, members opposite have been critical of some of these campaigns, particularly the Elle campaign. However, the fact remains that the Elle campaign has led to remarkable growth especially in international tourism for Western Australia. To run a successful tourism campaign, one needs good tourism products, good properties and roads, the water needs to be clean, the power needs to come on and the telephones need to work, one needs distribution channels - travel agents - for the distribution of product brochures and the like; but most importantly one needs an image which supports the product. The research done by the Western Australian Tourism Commission to support the Elle campaign found that the clearest image Western Australia was able to project onto the international and interstate tourism markets was one which revolved around the ideas of youth, vitality, cleanness and the natural environment. As it happened, that fitted in very neatly with Elle herself and was also very appropriate to the markets Western Australia sought to attract, particularly growth markets such as ecotourism and adventure tourism. The campaigns run by the Tourism Commission were particularly attractive in young market segments in places like North America and Europe, especially Germany.

It follows from this brief analysis of the tourist industry and what it needs to succeed, that the image the tourism industry projects to its main markets is essential. If members examine the issue of nuclear waste storage, they can see what a dramatic, irredeemable and permanent threat the idea of nuclear waste storage presents to the image of Western Australia as an attractive tourism destination. All of the things we talk about which make Western Australia a great place to visit - clean beaches and water, its pristine natural environment, magnificent regional destinations like the south west, the Kimberley and the mid west -

Mr Graham interjected.

Mr OSBORNE: And the Pilbara.

Mr Ainsworth: And Esperance.

Mr OSBORNE: And Esperance, the Bay of Isles and other similar places. That proves the point. All across Western Australia there are terrific natural attractions and they are the things which as a tourist destination we will be able to forever sell to the marketplaces of the world. It is those things which are threatened by the idea nuclear waste storage represents. It not only represents a threat to the reality of our tourism product and the image we want to present but it also gives a bit of a free kick to our market competitors. Any hint that Western Australia was considering storing nuclear waste would be a matter of great concern to the tourism industry. Any benefit we might receive from storing nuclear waste in Western Australia would be lost probably two, three, four or five times over in the immediate, long-term and permanent loss to the tourism industry. For those reasons, I support the original motion moved by the Minister for the Environment. The amendment moved by the Opposition is unnecessary because the motion is conclusive; it reflects my views and the views of everyone from this side of the House who has spoken in this matter. The wording is extremely clear and reflects public opinion. We all know that public opinion in Western Australia is decidedly against the storage of nuclear waste in this State and that is the ultimate message which should be sent to organisations like Pangea. The public of Western Australia, this Parliament and this House will never support such a proposal. The motion is adequate. I speak on behalf of the tourism industry in saying that if nuclear waste storage ever came to Western Australia, this great industry which has such enormous potential for regional Western Australia would be irredeemably destroyed.

MS ANWYL (Kalgoorlie) [4.59 pm]: I support the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition. I do so specifically as the member for Kalgoorlie, as Labor spokeswoman for youth and in my new capacity of Labor spokeswoman for the goldfields. There is much concern among my constituents about Pangea's proposal. When members talk to young people it is extremely clear that they are concerned about this and find it totally reprehensible that any Government could consider entering into some form of contract for a fixed period - 40 years in this case - which could have implications for the future of Western Australia well into the next millennium and with the sort of half life which has been suggested for plutonium, for some hundreds of thousands of years. That is something which seems to escape the advocates and proponents of this Pangea proposal. It is one thing for us to legislate. However, if such a proposal were ever to go through - let us hope that it never does - it will not just be something to deal with in our lifetimes; it will continue for many years into the future.

The position of the coalition Government at a federal level has certainly left some doubt, given the comments recently made by the federal member for Kalgoorlie, to which the Leader of the Opposition referred. He has claimed, for example, that Greenpeace will eventually call for a proposal such as this to go ahead. His comrade, Senator Lightfoot, has also made some

comments on this matter. There is a long history to these issues in the goldfields. I do not propose to go through that due to time constraints.

Suffice to say that many people are looking at the actions of all members of Parliament, both federal and state, concerning this matter. We all know that politics is about perceptions. We are all to some extent cognisant of the polls on a variety of issues. I suggest that there is a clear consensus of opinion on this issue among the Western Australian public. Given that the Howard Government introduced this new concept of core and non-core promises after the 1996 election, it must be remembered that there is a great deal of cynicism in the community about promises made by conservative Governments, both federal and state.

The Leader of the Opposition referred to the gold royalty, which is an issue very much present in the minds of people in the goldfields. It is important that we send a clear message to Pangea Resources Australia Pty Ltd. The proof of that will be in whether the Government supports the amendment. We will have even better proof of that tomorrow when we ascertain whether the Government is prepared to support the Leader of the Opposition's private member's Bill. It is extremely important that people stop treating inland Western Australia as some sort of resource that can be disposed of with impunity on an out-of-sight, out-of-mind basis. It is worth remembering that there have been earthquakes in some remote areas of Western Australia. The Meckering earthquake was an example of a significant tremor that was felt right across Western Australia.

I regret that I will not be present in the House tomorrow to debate the private member's Bill. However, for all those reasons I support the amendment. It is vital that state, federal and local governments, as well as local chambers of commerce, make their positions clear. I see the member for Roe is present. I understand that the Shire of Esperance has voted in the majority to invite Pangea to Esperance to discuss the issue.

Mr Ainsworth: I will talk about that in a minute.

Ms ANWYL: Good. I want the three tiers of government - local, state and federal - to make it clear that they will not countenance the Pangea proposal.

MR PENDAL (South Perth) [5.03 pm]: First, I support the Government's position and endorse that part of the motion which expresses total opposition to any proposal from any person or company to situate an international nuclear waste repository in Western Australia. I support part of the Opposition's amendment, but because I oppose another part of it, I intend to oppose all of it. For example, that part of the Opposition's amendment with which we are now dealing and with which I agree says that legislation banning the establishment of such a repository is required. I agree with that and I hope to have the opportunity tomorrow to vote accordingly. However, the Opposition's amendment is like many other Opposition amendments. It starts off being worthy of support, but trails off to express views that certainly do not represent my views. For example, the last two lines of the amendment state -

As Western Australia is currently not a uranium producer, the House expresses its opposition to the establishment of any uranium mining industry in the State.

I will spend a few minutes on that. If one took that part of the Opposition's amendment to its logical conclusion, a large part of the diagnostic weaponry at two Perth major hospitals would be shut down. For example, the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital has a department of nuclear medicine, and surgeons at Royal Perth Hospital have access -

Mr Riebeling: How are they surviving now?

Mr PENDAL: Just listen. Surgeons at Royal Perth Hospital have access to nuclear medicine for diagnostic purposes, the same as applies at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. I am one of the people who has benefited from a diagnosis by means of nuclear medicine. I am not alone in that. Hundreds, probably thousands, of Western Australians have had serious conditions confirmed or diagnosed as a result of nuclear medicine. It would be an absurdity to say that we should never mine uranium. What does that mean? Taken to its logical conclusion, that is another way of saying that we do not mind other societies mining uranium in order that Lucas Heights in Australia can deal with the substance so that people like me, and others, can have the benefit of nuclear medicine. That is an absurd proposition. It is a selfish proposition because it basically says that we will let other people take all the risk and we will get all the benefit.

People talk about the repository for nuclear waste and nuclear discards as though it does not happen in Western Australia. It does happen.

Mr Riebeling: For those products you are talking about.

Mr PENDAL: Indeed. It happens not only for the products about which I am talking, which are used in nuclear medicine, but also in many other products that we use on a day-to-day basis which should be disposed of safely. They are disposed of at Mt Walton and will continue to be disposed of there as part of our good citizenry that says we will deal with our own waste.

Two issues are at stake today in this debate. The first is whether we should oppose our State becoming an international dumping facility. I endorse that prospect in its entirety. The second issue with which we are dealing today is the suggestion that we should never allow the mining of uranium, which itself comes down to a condemnation and a rejection of the nuclear industry, which keeps people in this State alive. That is why people should make two separate judgments here. Had the Labor Party moved its amendment and stopped after the third line, I would have supported the amendment. For the second time today, I would have been inclined to move an amendment to delete the last six lines of the Labor Party's amendment. I then could have supported the first three lines. I am past the stage of making things unnecessarily complicated.

One of the great institutions in Australia exists at Lucas Heights in New South Wales, although it may be coming to the end of its useful life. It is the only nuclear facility we have which produces the nuclear material which is sent to Western Australia and subsequently used for medical diagnoses and treatment. For years the Lucas Heights facility has led the world in research into the safe disposal of nuclear waste. For years it has put to the test the theory contained in what is called Synroc; that is, if a nuclear product has been safely contained within the surface of Earth for millions of years, is it not possible, once it has been mined and refined and used, to recreate a synthetic rock similar to that from which it was taken in the first place, encase it, thereby perpetually guarding against poor disposal methods? The scientists at the Lucas Heights facility have put Australia to the forefront of research of the safe disposal of uranium by the use of synthetic rock. I do not know where the research is up to. Indeed, had I known this motion and amendment were coming on for debate today, I would have taken the trouble to find out. It is absurd to pretend that there are no good uses for uranium product. That is not the challenge for the world; rather, it is how to use a potentially disastrous product safely and wisely.

About a century and a half ago when the first locomotives were produced, they were seen as being so threatening to society that the laws required that they must be preceded on roads by people waving red flags so that all people could keep away from these new machines. The people who did that a century and a half ago are the modern day opponents of the safe use of uranium products for medical purposes. I know of no members in this House or beyond who would complain about the safe use of nuclear medicine when the eyesight of their sons or daughters has been saved by the use of nuclear products in their diagnosis or treatment. I know of no people in Australia who would complain if one of their family members had a brain condition diagnosed with the assistance of nuclear medicine. What are people opposing? They are opposing the hostile use of nuclear products. I do not know of any people in the world, apart from a few fanatics, who would suggest that the use of nuclear products in those circumstances is a good thing. Of course it is not.

In the final wash-up, two things are being decided today. I am very happy to be associated with the first: To agree with the Government in expressing total opposition to this State becoming an international nuclear waste repository. I repeat what I said earlier: It is not as though we are not a waste repository now. Madam Acting Speaker (Ms Anwyl), you might be the member who invites us to go to your electorate to see how nuclear waste is currently stored and how it has been stored for many years in Western Australia. I support the motion which rejects Western Australia being used internationally for other people's nuclear rubbish; but I, for one, cannot say it is not a good thing that we are prepared to look after our own nuclear medical waste and other forms of nuclear waste, which we currently do.

I cannot bring myself to express opposition to the establishment of any uranium mining industry in Western Australia, and I am in pretty good company. The federal Labor Party takes that view, and has done so for years. It has had a two-mine or a three-mine uranium policy. The only absurd thing about that decision of the federal Labor Party is that it is tied to a number: It should either oppose the mining of uranium, in which case there would be none; or it should allow mining to go ahead. It is ironic that for the second time today as a state or regional government, we are in a position to influence what the rest of the world does because we have very substantial reserves of uranium within the boundaries of Western Australia.

One of the good things about the federal system is that we need the processes of two governments to unlock uranium: The Federal Government must be prepared to give an export licence; however, having the Federal Government being prepared to give an export licence is no good if the State Government is not prepared to give a mining licence. That might sound like a contradiction in terms, but it is a safeguard. It means that if we want to export uranium in its raw state or in a refined state, the agreement of two Governments within Australia is required. That is a safeguard not just for this State, but for people around the nation. I urge members to keep in perspective the two things we are being asked to decide today. It is a great pity that the Labor Party amendment went beyond line three, which ends with the words "the establishment of an international nuclear waste repository is required".

It is interesting that it does not refer to the banning of uranium mining. Of course, it would not, because of the local nuclear waste disposal which was going on while the State Labor Party was in office. In summary: I support the Government's motion. I am pleased to say it is an unequivocal total opposition to any proposal to create an international nuclear waste dump here. Unfortunately, the Labor Party amendment goes just a bit too far in its last six lines; therefore, although I intend to support the motion, I will oppose the amendment for the reasons I have stated.

MR MacLEAN (Wanneroo) [5.18 pm]: I oppose the amendment. I do not think we can go much further than the argument of the member for South Perth, which was very succinct. There are two types of nuclear industry, one of which I am totally opposed to - the weapons industry; the other is the research industry, especially in medicine. Australia, and Western Australia in particular, has a very close connection with the weapons industry. The English first tested two nuclear weapons on the Emu plains in South Australia. These were atmospheric tests. The first test went really well. The nuclear cloud blew over Queensland which had to withdraw the milk supply on that day because it was irradiated. The second test went horribly wrong: The nuclear cloud which blew over South Australia resulted in an increase in leukemia, birth defects and associated problems. It is hard to get the exact figures. The Australian Bureau of Statistics' figures for that era in South Australia are vague. We have, therefore, a very close relationship with this issue. Western Australia has another close relationship because when the tests at Emu plains were mucked up, the Government did not learn; it moved the test site to the Monte Bello Islands. A number of weapon devices and trigger devices were tested there and people in Port Hedland were encouraged to go out and watch the big bang, see the mushroom cloud and feel the radiation blow over them with the sea breezes.

These were English government tests supported in Australia first by a Labor Government and then by a Liberal Government. It was considered to be a good thing that the English were a nuclear power as they were our main allies at the time. Subsequently, a great deal of irradiated equipment was left in Australia and it took a long time before the English Government was persuaded to clean up some of it. Is it not ironic that the debate tonight about Pangea Resources Australia

Pty Ltd is about an English company predominantly owned by the English Government wanting to dump its irradiated waste in Western Australia? It really does not care provided it is not in its backyard and that it is someone else's problem. A half life of plutonium is 10 000 years. Pangea is talking about a 40 year life span, which means 40 years plus another 10 000, plus another 10 000, plus another 10 000; that is how radiation works in a half life. Pangea will take responsibility for 40 years and we will take responsibility for the next 140 000 years. This is an English company predominantly owned by the English Government, which has not learned that we do not want it to blow up things in this State.

When one of the news organisations telephoned me to ask if I supported Pangea or not, it received an emphatic no. There was no if, but or when; it was just no. I have learned that most of my colleagues, when asked, gave the same answer, an emphatic no. However, what do we find out about our colleagues in the Australian Labor Party? Despite all the vacillation that that party has gone through to date, its members' stance is to follow the party line.

Mr Riebeling: That is not the motion.

Mr MacLEAN: The member for Burrup may be different but the majority of his colleagues said they follow the party line. The party line in the Australian Labor Party changes about as often as a dirty shirt. The state Labor Party has different policies from those of the federal Labor Party. It keeps changing its ideas. One supports the nuclear industry and one does not. One supports freedom of association and free speech and the Western Australian Labor Party wants to ban a company from setting up in this State. It really does not know what is going on. Its members run around trying to frighten people about this industry.

Mr Riebeling: Are you supporting the motion?

Mr MacLEAN: I support the motion; I do not support the amendment. The Labor Party's members run around trying to scare people by saying that it does not support the nuclear industry and the Government does. Perhaps some of them are emphatic with their answers but the others say they support the party line. When the Labor Party finally produces an ironclad party policy -

Mr Riebeling: I will send you a copy of it. It was released last week.

Mr MacLEAN: Yes, and it has changed previously.

Mr Riebeling: I will send you a copy.

Mr MacLEAN: Yes, but it changes. Did it change from the last time and the time before that? Of course it did. The ALP party policies change quickly.

Mr Osborne: What about East Timor?

Mr MacLEAN: What about the Labor Party's policy on East Timor? That is a pretty important policy; that changed.

Mr Graham interjected.

Mr MacLEAN: I think some of the members of the Labor Party would have liked it.

That is the problem I have. I totally oppose any foreign government coming into this country to deposit nuclear waste of any type. The reason Pangea is still hanging around is not because perhaps one or two people on this side of politics have different opinions from mine; it is because of the close association between the leadership of the Australian Labor Party in Western Australia and the leadership of the major shareholder in Pangea. The major shareholder of Pangea is the English Government.

Mr Masters: What about the British Government?

Mr MacLEAN: No, English, because Scotland and Wales will soon have their own Parliaments. It is therefore an English Government and I am happy to say that the English Government is trying to do this to us. Tony Blair is the leader of the English Government and his best mates are in the leadership of the Australian Labor Party in Western Australia; that is why Pangea is still hanging around. It is not because of the Liberal Party, it is because of the Labor Party in this place. Labor Party members say that they will follow the party line but their party line changes.

Mr Masters: What is your line?

Mr MacLEAN: I have a very good line. My line is no, Pangea will not come into this State. My colleagues' answer is no, it will not come into this State. Members opposite say they will follow the party line.

Mr Riebeling: What does the federal member for Kalgoorlie say?

Mr MacLEAN: Who cares about him? He is not in my electorate. Madam Acting Speaker, that is my concern. Members opposite vacillate too much.

MR GRAHAM (Pilbara) [5.26 pm]: Following the nuclear physicist from Wanneroo is a challenge! I believed the Minister for Health was in trouble at question time. I am not convinced that is true any more. I do not know where the Premier will find a replacement for him; it will not be from the backbenches.

Mr Pandal interjected.

Mr GRAHAM: It will not be from there either. The member for South Perth had his opportunity and blew it. It is funny that the member for South Perth should leap out of his box as I want to touch on a couple of issues that he raised. He was vehement about the unequivocal nature of the opposition to Pangea. He is a man who knows how to use a word and chooses

his words always with great care. He was using words like "unequivocal" and "total opposition to the proposal". I tell the member for South Perth that the Parliament, including this House, is not unequivocal in its opposition to Pangea and it is not using its total ability to oppose Pangea. If it was, it would use its power to legislate to prevent Pangea coming into this State. That is its total power.

Mr Pental interjected.

Mr GRAHAM: The member for South Perth will deal with that but members should look at what the motion asks them to do. Why are we dealing with this motion now? Why, all of a sudden, has the Liberal Party in Western Australia decided that Pangea is an issue and it needs to move a motion? One wonders. Could it be, as previous speakers have pointed out chapter and verse, due to the ceaseless touching of senior people associated with the Liberal Party and Pangea? There is a ceaseless crossing of paths, contact, doubt and duplicity about what is in fact going on. It was extraordinary that at question time today the Premier was asked a question about the Agent General in London - Western Australia's representative in the United Kingdom - and said that he did not care what the Agent General was saying to Pangea. The Premier should know what the Agent General is saying, and he should care. Regardless of what a wonderful chap the Agent General is, and members of the Liberal Party love him dearly, he is Western Australia's representative in London.

I do not share the view of members opposite who put such great faith in a motion of the House sending out a clear message on this matter. I decided to see what the House has done in the past. The argument from government members is that the motion is a clear demonstration of our wishes, and all we need do is carry it to send a message out, and nothing will change and we will preclude Pangea Resources from coming into Western Australia forever. I asked a Chamber attendant to select a *Hansard* from 30 years ago. I was given a 1968-69 *Hansard*. It was interesting to read what members of Parliament were doing in 1968-69. My late uncle led a debate on the legalisation of the Church of Scientology. There was a debate on the Termination of Pregnancy Bill. Purely coincidentally, there was a debate on the effect of Aboriginal rights on mining in the Gascoyne and the Pilbara and a grievance debate about the effect of mining on pastoral leases in the Gascoyne. That debate referred to the deleterious effect that mining was having on pastoral leases in the Gascoyne. Surprise, surprise! A motion was moved by the House, which I am sure members opposite, who are advocates of motions as the way to protect the world, have all read and understood. It is a motion of the Parliament, so members opposite will be deeply committed to it. Can the Minister for Resources Development guess what it refers to? It is about protecting forests in Bridgetown. The Minister for Resources Development should read that motion and see the effect it has had on the establishment of an industrial site in a forest reserve north of Bridgetown. That forest reserve was to be protected by a motion of the Parliament.

The second point in the *Hansard* of that time is a follow-on from the contribution of the rocket scientist from Wanneroo. My predecessor, Arthur Bickerton, the then member for Pilbara, asked the then Premier, Sir David Brand, a series of questions about the proposed establishment of a port at Cape Keraudren, which is north of Port Hedland, by way of an atomic blast. The big bang port at Cape Keraudren! That was stopped by an agreement Act; that is, by legislation of the Parliament.

Mr Barnett: They are useful.

Mr GRAHAM: I could not agree more; legislation is useful. That is what Parliament was doing 30 years ago. Although I made the point flipantly, no member here has any idea of the motions that were carried in this Parliament. The reason is that the motions have no standing whatever other than as an expression of the views of the members of the House - now 57, but then there were 39 members. There can and should be legislation, and I assume that the Leader of the Opposition will introduce legislation tomorrow night.

The amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition asks us to do two things, one of which is indisputable: That the House note that any motion carried by this House is not binding on any Government. It is a simple statement of fact that a motion is not binding on anybody or any Government; it is an expression of the House. The amendment states that legislation banning the establishment of an international nuclear waste repository is required. It is required simply because it is the only way that we can be certain that such a repository will not be started without the public becoming aware of it. To some of the less informed members opposite it may come as a great surprise that when ministers are behind closed doors with developers they sometimes say things that do not find their way into the Parliament or into agreement Acts, and that sometimes undertakings and commitments are given about which they know absolutely nothing. I could say that the rocket scientist from Wanneroo may finish his political career not knowing anything, but that would be a tad unfair. However, if it is enshrined in legislation that there will be no such repository, the minister is obliged to take the matter to Cabinet and bring it back to Parliament to be dealt with.

I want to deal with the last part of the motion. The member for South Perth as an Independent always seems to find a way, with many of our motions, to say publicly that he supports the line the Opposition has taken. When he does that I say, "Beauty, we have the politics pretty right on this one." However, the member always finds a way to withdraw his support, so he does not have to vote when it comes to the crunch. It is political coitus interruptus. The member for South Perth should read the last part of the amendment which states that the House notes the statement by the Minister for Resources Development. I give the minister credit for being entirely consistent. I do not agree with him, but he has been entirely consistent in his argument that we incur some responsibility if we indulge in mining. I have already dismissed the view about the storage of medical and industrial isotopes. That is quite legal and legitimate, and a repository is in place to store and deal with that material. That is our waste and we deal with it. That is a reasonable position. The Minister for Resources Development closes the loop and says that if we allow mining we incur an international responsibility to deal with the waste.

Mr Barnett: At last someone in this Parliament understands and has the credibility to accurately repeat what I said, and I thank the member for that.

Mr GRAHAM: Having said that, I understand what the Minister for Resources Development has said, but I disagree with him. If other members in this House heard and understood what the minister said by way of interjection they can do very little other than vote with the second part of the ALP's amendment to the motion, because it deals with that closed loop that the minister has raised and has now reinforced. Simply put, if we mine uranium and export it we get it back. That is the deal. The ALP says that we do not mine it.

Mr Barnett: I have not said that. The member inferred I said that if we mine it and export it we get it back. That may be one outcome, or it may be that, under the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, we mine and export it and ensure that it is not used for weapons purposes and that it is safely disposed of - wherever that might be. It is not necessarily the case that it will come back, but we have a responsibility to ensure that it is used for peaceful purposes and the waste product is safely and securely disposed of.

Mr GRAHAM: I accept that as part of a multifaceted approach to nuclear waste. I accept that there are levels of responsibility, and that involves different places and different ways. However, if one believes, as members on the Labor side of politics believe, that we should not mine uranium, we do not take the first step and we do not find ourselves in a closed loop. That is the simple proposition of our amendment.

I must despatch in the last minute of my speech the nonsense from members opposite that somehow the State ALP has been equivocal, or that some movement has occurred, in its position on uranium mining. In 1969 or 1972 or something of that ilk - definitely the late 1960s and early 1970s - the state branch of the Australian Labor Party expressed its clear opposition to uranium mining. It has been consistent in that view from that day to this. I recall when we were in government the member for Nedlands, who was then opposition spokesman for Resources and Energy, making gibes at me across the Chamber about proposals to get CRA's Kintyre mine off the ground in the Pilbara. I said then, as I say now, that I was extremely happy to endorse the no uranium mining policy of the Australian Labor Party. I do not believe in the nuclear industry, either for weapons or peace. None of the serious problems raised by the uranium industry and nuclear power industry has been addressed, as is consistently borne out by Pangea-type proposals.

The answer is simple to people advocating a Pangea-type repository in Western Australia: We do not want it; we have never wanted it; and we will continue to make it clear that we do not want it. For State Parliament not to legislate so that such a repository is not possible here is a cop out, which leaves open for debate the possibility that Pangea may have its way and change the system over time.

MR AINSWORTH (Roe) [5.42 pm]: I will touch on a couple of matters raised already, and refer specifically to my home town of Esperance. Some concerns exist in Esperance, which may be the chosen port to handle such material if the proposed activities were to occur, which I am sure will not happen.

The Opposition claims that as Pangea is setting up an office, the company has the support of some government members. If there was widespread support within Government for Pangea Resources to move into Australia with a nuclear waste dump, the company would not need to set up an office at an early stage. It could fly over representatives to have a quiet chat with a couple of mates here to get the proposal signed, sealed and delivered. They could then head home. If one must lobby and work exceptionally hard to perhaps get what is wanted, one sets up a local office to take every opportunity to push the proposal. I suspect that that is happening. I see nothing sinister in an office being set up by Pangea, which it is legally entitled to do. One cannot preclude people because one does not like them.

The Opposition is wrong in its claim that some members of the Government support the idea of nuclear waste being dumped in the middle of the desert, which is an easy answer to a worldwide problem. First, government members do not support that activity. It would be wrong for a Government to support such a proposal. When people produce nuclear waste overseas and have the easy option of putting it on a ship and dumping it in the Australian desert, the incentive is removed for that country to find better and safer ways to store the waste in its backyard. We would be irresponsible to provide that gateway to let others avoid that responsibility. For that reason alone, apart from a host of others, I would never support an out-of-sight, out-of-mind policy; namely, that nuclear waste should be put in outback Australia far from where the nuclear waste is produced and from Australian capital cities.

You mentioned, Madam Acting Speaker, the invitation by the Shire of Esperance to have talks with Pangea. You raised an interesting point. The Shire of Esperance has begun investigations into legal ways to create a nuclear-free zone in the shire. It looked at what happened with Chapman Valley, which tried the same thing but met some problems with the state Minister for Planning over some planning decisions. This has nothing to do with nuclear waste per se, but relates to who has precedence in these matters; is it state or local government? The Shire of Esperance is looking at ways to deal with that issue. It states that if Pangea is proposing something for Australia, it wants to be better informed than by reading about it in newspaper reports. It does not hurt to talk, and one need not agree. One is better informed about the proposal if one talks to the company.

Mr Graham interjected.

Mr AINSWORTH: That is a totally different issue. I am disappointed in the member for Pilbara for being flippant on a serious issue. It does him no credit. He knows that he speaks nonsense and I am disgusted with him.

Some shire councillors at Esperance could be described as environmentalists. I spoke to one such person a couple of days ago who told me that she was absolutely opposed to the idea of nuclear waste being brought into Western Australia in any form through any port; nevertheless, she supported talking to Pangea. One cannot shut one's mind to things and hope they will go away, and be ill-informed about the process. "Know thine enemy" is a good, old saying which is relevant to this debate. Such communication does not indicate support for the proposal from either the shire or the Esperance community.

The reverse is true. We are very concerned about any proposition to bring nuclear waste into Western Australia from overseas. If, broadly speaking, the goldfields is a possible destination for the waste, it could pass through the port of Esperance. We oppose that possibility strenuously for a range of reasons.

As the member for Bunbury outlined well, tourism is another related matter. Our tourism industry has the potential to grow dramatically beyond current levels. I opposed my parliamentary colleague, the Minister for Fisheries, over a tuna farm proposal for Esperance's Archipelago of the Recherche which would have detrimentally affected the tourism industry. However, that potential impact is infinitesimal when compared to the impact which would result from the importation of nuclear waste through Esperance, or another port. It would be detrimental to international tourism, which is a growing market for our town and the rest of the State.

Other environmental issues arise, such as the potential for spillage in the harbour and how the waste might be transported, be it by rail or road. One cannot guarantee that these things will not happen. Even if it was 99.99 recurring per cent safe, the fraction of a percentage chance for an accident to occur would still exist. One cannot take that chance.

I have been clear in my public opposition to the proposal. Esperance is also clear in its opposition. I have pleasure in supporting the Government's motion on this matter, but unfortunately I cannot support the Opposition's amendment because it goes too far. The Government's motion is a starting point. Initially we must clearly indicate the attitude of this House to the public and the likes of Pangea Resources. I strongly support the motion.

MRS van de KLASHORST (Swan Hills - Parliamentary Secretary) [5.50 pm]: I support the motion moved by the Minister for the Environment and commend her for it. The Government should send a strong message to Pangea Resources Australia Pty Ltd and this motion is a strong message to Pangea that the State will not accept the world's nuclear waste.

I do not support the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition because I have had X-rays and scans. I have friends who have had chemotherapy and other procedures for which uranium is used. If I were to support no mining of uranium I would be hypocritical because I use the resultant products. I fully agree that the State must look after its own waste. However, we must do more than that. This is a good debate because it allows these issues to be discussed in a wider forum. We must start looking to the future. We know what is happening now. We are using nuclear materials for medical purposes and they are being used to generate power in other areas. We must consider the worldwide problem of the disposal of nuclear waste. A debate such as this is a good medium in which to do it.

In the future, with more and more uranium being mined and more nuclear facilities being used, the waste problem will get bigger. Somewhere along the line the world must stop and look at the situation. I believe that Australia is in a position to lead the world in looking for a replacement for uranium for medical purposes, the generation of electricity and all its other uses. Scientists must find some other form of renewable energy for the peoples of the world to use. However, while we continue selling uranium to people, they will not look for something else to use in its place. While they have something relatively cheap and easy to manage, they will not look for something else. Because our State and our country have huge uranium deposits, we will continue to supply the world with uranium. Far be it from me to say that third world countries should not have the same medical benefits that we enjoy. At the same time we should be urging our scientists to look for something to replace nuclear energy so that there will not be a major long-term problem with nuclear waste. The more uranium we mine, the more we use and the more we sell, the more nuclear waste we must dispose of in the future.

We must find some alternative source of energy. A debate like this could be the start of our doing so. We should look at other ways of providing the products that nuclear power provides. The source has not yet been invented or found but we must look for it. That is the reason I have spoken on this issue. I want to emphasise to the House that we cannot continue to use nuclear energy because we will not be able to dispose of its waste in the future. We should be thinking laterally to try to find some other form of energy. We have a responsibility to look after our own waste, but I do not believe that we have a responsibility to look after the world's waste. If countries use uranium, they must, when planning how to use it, plan how to dispose of it.

I support the Government's motion and commend the minister for bringing it forward. The message being sent to Pangea is a strong message: We will not under any circumstances accept the world's nuclear waste. Responsibility for handling the waste should be given back to the users. I do not support the Opposition's amendment simply because it will mean that we will lose the medical benefits that we get from nuclear energy, and other countries will lose the benefits they gain from nuclear power providing they know that they must work towards disposing of their own waste.

MR MASTERS (Vasse) [5.55 pm]: I admit that, in a previous life, I worked as a geologist and one of my chores was to explore for uranium. For that reason amongst others, I oppose the amendment put forward by the Opposition. I support the motion that was moved by the Minister for the Environment because I am opposed to the use of Western Australia as a high-level nuclear waste repository.

I believe I am the only person in this place who has worked in a nuclear-related industry. I refer to the mineral sands industry. I spent 12 years working primarily in the Capel area, involved in mineral sands exploration and mining, one of the products of which is monazite, which is a low-level radioactive substance. Members may recall that the unwise disposal of monazite caused significant concerns about radiation in Capel and other towns in New South Wales and Western Australia in the 1970s and 1980s. Because of this past involvement in an industry related to the nuclear industry, I must admit that I know a little about radiation. I make the following brief points: I hope that members realise that houses built of bricks are something in the order of 10 times more radioactive than houses built with just about any other commodity.

Mr Prince: Except granite.

Mr MASTERS: Yes. I am concerned that we have recently gone through a Regional Forest Agreement debate that has scared off many people from using timber, which from a radiation point of view has levels so low as to be close to unmeasurable. If we were genuinely interested in issues relating to exposure of human beings to radiation, at the very least we would be encouraging people to go into timber homes rather than brick homes.

During the radiation problem period in the late 1970s and early 1980s at Capel, it came to my attention that there were some hot spots of radiation in the Darling Ranges. These were caused by gravel, laterite or ironstone accumulations which, according to the information I was presented with, were in theory so radioactive that they should have been classified as radioactive material and planning laws should have been passed to stop people from living or building houses over those areas. Members may be interested to know that there are still many beaches in Western Australia which contain natural concentrations of mineral sands including monazite and which by definition are radioactive - certainly far more radioactive than other beaches. Those beaches in theory should be off limits to humans.

In relation to a point raised by the member for Maylands when she was talking about the deadly nature of plutonium, it is worth mentioning that plutonium may well be a poisonous substance but it has a half-life, I believe, of less than 10 000 years. Far more poisonous substances exist, including cyanide and monosodium fluoroacetate or 10,80 poison. They are not radioactive and they do not have a half-life and therefore they will be with us forever. People get very irrational when they talk about the radiation issue.

I have given these examples because I fear that Pangea's proposal for the safe disposal of global nuclear waste, as unacceptable as it is, will be ignored or not rationally debated by the media and certain political parties. That would be strongly regretted, as that is one of many issues, including the fate of East Timor, which are far more important in their overall magnitude and significance to the world than the normal issues which are discussed on a daily basis in this Parliament and in the wider community of Western Australia. I am extremely disappointed that the Australian Labor Party has tried to create hysteria over this issue of nuclear waste disposal in Western Australia to the extent that people are being actively discouraged from or intimidated into not having a rational debate.

There are many similarities with the green movement's emotional hysteria over the logging of old-growth forest and its hypocritical sympathy for the people and their communities devastated by consequential timber mill closures.

Sitting suspended from 6.00 to 7.00 pm

Mr MASTERS: I repeat my support for the motion proposed by the Government. I strongly oppose the use of Western Australia as a nuclear waste repository. My biggest regret about this debate is the inability of people to discuss the issue freely and openly. We live in a democratic society which, in theory, prides itself on freedom of speech. There are a number of issues that I could raise but time is short and I have been unable to research them in depth. However, I would have thoroughly enjoyed telling members that nuclear reactors have been operating in nature. In the west African country of Gabon a nuclear reactor began operation some 2 500 million years ago, and operated for about 40 or 50 million years. I would also have enjoyed talking about the controversial theory that low-level radiation either causes no harm or is required by human cells to stimulate their natural defence mechanisms against higher levels of radiation. I could have spoken about the benefits and costs of fossil fuel consumption compared with the benefits and costs of nuclear power. Finally, I could have mentioned that the human species - known as homo sapiens - would not exist without radiation. Humans were created as a result of genetic changes brought about by radiation. Radiation created the world's enormous biodiversity. However, none of this is important to the Australian Labor Party or other political parties. It does not suit their political goals in the lead up to the next election to talk about the genuinely important issues relating to the nuclear industry and the environment.

MR RIEBELING (Burrup) [7.02 pm]: I also support the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition. It is quite bizarre to hear members discussing the benefits of low-level radiation and of using nuclear isotopes in various beneficial methods of medical science. The motion is talking about the storage of extremely dangerous, hazardous material. This material would come from nuclear reactors from around the world and be dumped in Western Australia. It has nothing to do with "nice" radiation that can be used in medical science. We are talking about the worst type of nuclear rubbish that people want to dump in our backyard. It is radioactive for 250 000 years. Pangea Resources Australia Pty Ltd says it can look after the nuclear waste for 40 years. It will then give it to the State to look after for the balance of the 250 000 years. If anyone in this place thinks that is a good idea, they are wrong, especially when it is in my electorate that Pangea wants to put the waste. We have seen what the British have done. The Premier mentioned that the Leader of the Opposition is friends with the Prime Minister of England. That does not mean we trust the Poms with radiation. They exploded a bomb in my electorate. England is the only nation that has exploded a nuclear device in Western Australia. That does not mean that we are going to turn the corner and let England bring its nuclear rubbish to Western Australia. If it is in my electorate, it is not going to happen. If this Government thinks that by mining uranium it would be obligated to bring the waste back to Western Australia, it is wrong. That is the most ridiculous argument I have ever heard. The most deadly part of the nuclear cycle is the storage of waste. We do not benefit from the nuclear cycle in any way. We decided not to go into that sphere. Yet some on the other side, such as the federal member for Kalgoorlie, think it would be a great idea to bring the world's waste into our backyard.

If it is so safe, why are countries such as France and Britain - which are involved in the nuclear industry - not busting a gut to get hold of this industry for which Pangea has the technology? It defies logic that it is suddenly safe in Australia. It is not safe in any other part of the world but it is supposedly safe in my electorate. We should have a pilot plant in Peppermint Grove and see how safe it is for those people! If it is safe there and no-one dies in 40 or 50 years, then we can put it in the Pilbara. We will take everyone's waste, but let us try it out first in the metropolitan area. If people living in metropolitan Perth think that is outrageous, just imagine what we think about people suggesting that it should come into my electorate.

It is not going to come into my electorate. We will make sure of that no matter what people say. All the double talk that is going on is unacceptable.

People say it is unnecessary to have legislation protecting the State from future moves by Pangea. However, the Shire of Roebourne was prompted by concerns over statements by the Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party that if uranium mining takes place, we are obligated to go into the storage business. At its council meeting on 31 May two declarations were made. These state -

Declare the Shire of Roebourne as a nuclear free zone for the transportation of nuclear waste; and

That Council lobby the State Government to introduce state legislation to prohibit the establishment of a nuclear waste facility development in Western Australia.

That echoes what the Opposition is putting to the people through this Parliament. It is something that people in my area feel very strongly about. The council has taken a leading step and I applaud them for that.

A Youth Parliament was recently held here. One of the students attending was Victoria Levien, a student at St Luke's College in Karratha. She took it upon herself to get a petition ready for the Youth Parliament so that the area's youth could show their annoyance at whatever issue they thought fit. As a result, 225 students signed her petition. It states -

To the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned call upon the State Government to ban importation of nuclear waste material into Western Australia and transportation of waste within the state.

Your petitioners, therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, in duty bound, will ever pray.

That was what they wanted to do. It is important for members of Parliament to take note of what Western Australia's youth are saying. This petition bears 225 signatures and says exactly that. I seek permission to lay this on the Table for the balance of today's sitting.

[The paper was tabled for the information of members.]

Mr RIEBELING: That is the feeling coming from my electorate. The member for South Perth indicated that we are against medical research. That is not the case. That is such a long bow that I cannot believe that the member for South Perth actually said it. I have had a quick chat with him. He still maintains that our amendment actually is anti medical research. It does not mention medical research or waste product produced in Australia. We have facilities that store low-level radiation. The member for Vasse said that there is radiation in nature. There is, but there are no plutonium rods irradiating people and killing them. It is drawing an extremely long bow to suggest a Pangea project storing waste product would be in any way beneficial to the human race. It is deadly rubbish that might be able to be stored safely for 100 years. I ask members to imagine the damage that would be done to future generations of Western Australians if the facility, containing the world's waste products of nuclear reactors, sprang a leak. It is important to put legislation in place to give confidence to Western Australians that there is absolutely no chance that this crazy project will get any credence at all. I have not come across one person in my electorate who says that we should go ahead with it. It is unusual for an electorate as diverse and as pro-development as mine to not have one supporter of the Pangea project. People that are normally violently pro-development are totally opposed to this sort of development. The Government should know that my electorate will reject any attempt to put such a facility within its boundaries.

MR BAKER (Joondalup) [7.14 pm]: I support the substantive motion for reasons that are patently obvious to any reasonable person. All members of this Chamber oppose the Pangea proposal, as do the members of the other place and the overwhelming majority of right-minded, reasonable thinking members of the Western Australian community. It is important that the substantive motion receives unanimous support so that this House sends a very clear message to Pangea Resources Australia Pty Ltd that it is wasting its time in Western Australia and its consultants should return to the eastern States and the United Kingdom. The Leader of the Opposition alleged during his remarks that the Labor Party has a clear policy on the Pangea issue and the Government does not. The wording of the substantive motion is clear. It reflects what the coalition parties' policy is on this issue. There is nothing equivocal in this motion. There is nothing that a semi-trailer could be driven through. There are no loopholes. The substantive motion says it all. It says unconditionally "no" for all time.

The Opposition has alleged that the motion does not go far enough - that there is a need for specific legislation banning the proposal. It must be emphasised that it is only a proposal at this stage. Any proposal to import nuclear waste into Australia, specifically Western Australia, is first and foremost a commonwealth issue. The Commonwealth Government has said that it will not support under any circumstances any proposal to import nuclear waste into Australia for the purpose of storage, whether in WA or elsewhere. The Labor Party is suggesting that is not enough - that WA requires its own legislation. It is interesting that the state Labor Party is not saying that the federal Labor Party should push for legislation in the Federal Parliament. It is therefore implying that there is no need for federal legislation banning the proposal but there is a need for state legislation. That is somewhat inconsistent.

Mr Riebeling: What if the Federal Government said yes?

Mr BAKER: When the coalition Government is in office in this State, it has control over land issues in this State. I will

not mention the native title issue as that will open a Pandora's box of constitutional issues about who should be primarily responsible for land management in the State. The Labor Party says that legislation is needed to ban the nuclear waste disposal proposal. However, any legislation made by the Parliament of Western Australia can be repealed or amended in due course. Legislation is not the answer. The first paragraph in the amendment is false and misleading. It purports that legislation is needed to stop the proposal from ever getting off the ground. That is not the case at all. In WA there is already legislation pursuant to which various licences, permits, consents and approvals are required before the facility proper could be constructed or advanced. The Opposition has not mentioned that. Myriad pieces of federal legislation must be complied with which require permits and consents. It is clear that the amendment moved by the Labor Party is just a stunt. Members will recall that during the Address-in-Reply debate a few weeks ago, we discussed an amendment relating to the possible introduction of poker machines into WA. The Government's position was that the amendment was unnecessary. The Government has said that poker machines will not be allowed into Western Australia. If the Labor Party was so concerned about these social issues, it could mount the same argument in respect of poker machines and tonight or next week propose that we need specific legislation in Western Australia banning poker machines. It is not proposing that. If it were consistent it would advocate the need for legislation in that area also. In the case of Pangea's proposal, it is well aware that the Government has said it will not happen. Yet it has said there is a need for legislation relating to Pangea's proposal but not for poker machines.

It is clear that the Labor Party is cranking up a fear campaign in order to sway community sentiment on issues. It asserts that WA should never become a uranium producer. The amendment directly contradicts the federal Labor Party's policy on uranium mining in Australia. The policies of the federal and state Labor Parties differ on this issue. It would be interesting to see the position of other state Labor Party branches.

I endorse the comments made by the member for South Perth in relation to the third paragraph of the proposed amendment. The member has indicated that if that paragraph were endorsed by way of the amendment, it would have the effect of closing down many medical and scientific-based industries that are concerned with relieving suffering and sickness in the broader community. That would be ludicrous. The phraseology used in the third paragraph of the proposed amendment is far too broad. I do not think the draftsman paid enough attention to the consequences of what is being proposed.

Once again we are wasting time debating an amendment which is a stunt. It is fallacious. Any legislation passed in this place or the other place can be repealed or amended in future. I support the substantive motion but there is no need for the amendment. The Government's policy is clear and reflected in the substantive motion currently before the House.

MR MCGOWAN (Rockingham) [7.18 pm]: It is time for plain speaking on this issue. The motion put forward by the Government has only one purpose; that is, to divert attention from the fact that the Opposition has put forward a Bill to outlaw the establishment of a nuclear waste storage facility like the Pangea proposal in this State. The Government has become aware that the Opposition intends to introduce a Bill of this nature in the near future and has asked itself what it can do to divert attention from that Bill and show that it has some credentials in this regard. To counteract the Opposition's Bill the Government has moved this motion, which is a stunt and not worth the paper on which it is written because it will not prevent the establishment of a nuclear waste dump in this State. The strategists of the Liberal Party have sat down and said that the Opposition will introduce a Bill that accords with Labor Party policy and is something in which it firmly believes and then the strategists have asked what the Liberal Party can do about that. They would have said that the Government must oppose the Bill because it is the natural role of the Government to oppose motions and legislation moved by the Labor Party, even if it is decent legislation. That attitude says much about the attitudes of some members in this Parliament. The Opposition supports in total many of the Bills that are introduced by the Government. In this case the Opposition will introduce a Bill that accords with the wishes of the vast majority of the people of this State; yet the Government had to find a way of opposing it. That way was to move this motion, which means nothing and which will have neither a binding effect nor the force of law. It will give the coalition an excuse for voting against our Bill. That is a pathetic way of examining issues in this State.

The other reason the Government will oppose the Opposition's Bill is that a large number of people in the Liberal Party in Western Australia support a nuclear waste dump in this State. Senator Ross Lightfoot said he thought it was a great idea. This is the man who won a majority of the votes on the state executive of the Liberal Party during the preselection process for the Senate vacancy. He is supported by the majority of the lay members of the Liberal Party of this State. Barry Haase, the federal member for Kalgoorlie, who represents the area in which the site is proposed, said he thought it was a reasonable idea.

Mr Riebeling: He encouraged it.

Mr MCGOWAN: He said that it was a great idea. Basically the entire right wing of the Liberal Party said it was okay. If I recall correctly, Senator Lightfoot said he thought the majority of the Parliamentary Liberal Party supported the idea and that it was strongly supported by many members of the Liberal Party who were probably not as outspoken as he is.

When the Shire of Chapman Valley, a small council with only 14 employees, wanted to make a small statement indicating that it did not want nuclear waste imported through its boundary, which will contain the Oakajee development, the Minister for Planning said it could not do that. The minister was not prepared to consider ways in which the wishes of the people of that area could be accommodated. He could only say no. Then we had the alternative Premier, the man who would be king, the member for Cottesloe, saying that we must be part of this debate. Those words are his code for secretly wanting to see a waste dump established in this State. He sees it as an economic boon for this State and an avenue for putting income into the Government's coffers.

The Minister for Planning; the Minister for Resources Development and Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party; Senator

Lightfoot, a man who obtained more than half the support of the Liberal Party in Western Australia when he was preselected for the Senate; and Barry Haase, one of the newest and brightest stars from Western Australia in the Federal Parliament - all have shown support for the Pangea Resources proposal. One member has said that more than half the Liberal Party was supportive of it.

However, the Liberal Party has a big problem. The people who agree with this motion do not want to support the Opposition's Bill because that would be contrary to the Liberal Party's policy; the Government must be seen to be proactive in these situations. The other half of the Liberal Party is saying that it wants to see a Pangea Resources proposal established in this State so a Bill should not be passed or it will make it difficult in the future to establish a site.

What is the Opposition proposing that people like the member for Joondalup are so hostile about? The Opposition's Bill is the best mechanism for preventing the proposal by Pangea Resources being implemented in the future. It will be at least a safeguard for the future. I recall hearing talk a while ago about the inadvisability of this Parliament to bind by legislation future Governments from taking certain steps. The Notice Paper contains 18 Bills that will bind future Governments. It is the role of Parliament to put in place guidelines, rules and laws for the governance of this State.

To pass an Act of Parliament such as that which the Opposition proposes is not so unusual; in fact, we do it every week in this place. When the commonwealth Constitution was implemented something was put in place that is very difficult to change. Governments implement legislation that binds future Governments. The Opposition's proposal is not so unusual. It is a measure that will give some certainty to the people of Western Australia.

When the Government knocks off our Pangea Bill when it is brought on for debate, the people of this State will no doubt realise that the Government wants to leave the door open for that project. They will know that a motion in this Parliament has no binding force. Let the Government's decision on this fall on its own head. We believe it is a bad decision and the people of Western Australia also will see it that way.

MS MacTIERNAN (Armadale) [7.27 pm]: The vast majority of issues involved with this matter have already been addressed, but a couple may not have been raised. One is of course the purpose of surveying the Woodie Woodie road beyond Woodie Woodie to the Kintyre deposit. We know, from responses to questions asked of the minister and information that we have received under the freedom of information legislation, that the Ripon Hills road was surveyed beyond the point of Woodie Woodie out to the Kintyre deposit. We have yet to receive an explanation for that survey if, indeed, no plans were in place by the Government to develop the Kintyre deposit or to use that area for some other purpose. I would be very interested in the Minister for the Environment's giving an explanation for that survey and indicating to what extent it is proposed that we become part of the nuclear cycle.

There is a certain amount of logic in what the Leader of the House has said from time to time; that is, if we are part of the nuclear cycle we have an obligation to take the waste. However, the Opposition parts company with the Leader of the House as we hold that we should not be part of the nuclear cycle. If the Government is covertly considering developing the Kintyre deposit and is prepared to put public funds into surveying and developing the road to that area, that may be an indication that it is considering becoming part of the nuclear cycle in a serious way. In doing so it would be putting on this State the obligation to take nuclear waste from the purchasers of our supply.

I also note - I am not sure that it has been raised in the debate - the statement that was made by Wilson Tuckey that he has no difficulty with the idea of nuclear waste being imported into the State through the Oakajee port. I have previously set out in this place the disgraceful saga that occurred during the last federal election when a person who had recorded Mr Tuckey making those comments and who sought to have an advertisement placed in one of the Geraldton newspapers saying that a vote for Tuckey was a vote for uranium was unable to do so. The newspaper proprietor said that he would not accept that advertisement because it was not true. The person said that he had a tape of an interview with Mr Tuckey establishing that he had made that statement. Shortly thereafter, this person received a visit from the Australian Federal Police seeking to obtain a copy of that tape from him, without a search warrant. The saga became somewhat more complicated when the state police became involved, and there has certainly been a pattern of the most disgraceful persecution of that gentleman, particularly once he became involved with, and was elected to, the Geraldton City Council. Clearly, the conservative elements in the electorate of Geraldton were keen to silence this man's opposition to the use of Oakajee as a possible entry point for this nuclear waste industry.

I will also take up the point that was made by the member for Rockingham. The Shire of Chapman Valley is just the first of a number of local authorities that want to declare their areas nuclear-free. It obviously shares the concerns of many other people that the port development will be used to bring in nuclear waste. When the shire was refused permission by the minister to amend its town planning scheme to prevent the use of land for purposes associated with the nuclear industry -

Mr Bloffwitch: It would be no good doing that with Geraldton seeing it belongs to Chapman Valley.

Ms MacTIERNAN: Sorry, I am talking about Chapman Valley.

Mr Bloffwitch: I thought you were talking about Geraldton.

Ms MacTIERNAN: No, I was picking up the point made by the member for Rockingham. The minister determined that he would refuse approval for the shire to do so because it did not come within the scheduled purposes of the Town Planning and Development Act. It certainly seems now that the Chapman Valley Shire has an extensive legal opinion from Minter Ellison that states this does come within the schedule of purposes, it comes within the four corners of the schedule to the legislation, and therefore it is appropriate for the shire to exclude uses of this type. The Government's answer to that was that it has Crown Law advice that states the opposite. The Shire of Chapman Valley, at considerable expense, has obtained

its opinion. It made its opinion public and handed it to the Government. However, the Government will not provide a copy of its opinion to the Shire of Chapman Valley. We suspect that may well be because the opinion that the Government has received is entirely equivocal about this issue; consequently the minister has improperly denied the Shire of Chapman Valley the opportunity to make the declaration and there is no legislative prohibition whatsoever on the shire doing this.

Although I have no doubt that a number of members on the government benches are implacably opposed to any proposals to have foreign nuclear waste dumped in Western Australia, a series of actions have been taken by different government agencies which are quite inconsistent with the Government's avowed desire to stay out of the nuclear cycle. I have enumerated just a few of them. I will be fascinated to hear tonight the Government's explanation of why it has surveyed the road to the Kintyre deposit beyond the existing mines at Woodie Woodie.

MR BROWN (Bassendean) [7.35 pm]: I will make a few comments on this motion because I have received a number of calls from constituents in my electorate expressing concern and outrage about the proposal of Pangea Resources Australia Pty Ltd. My constituents have suggested to me on more than one occasion that action should be taken to ensure that this proposal cannot be accepted in the life of this or any future Government. A constituent who contacted me yesterday suggested that mechanisms should be put in place to ensure that any proposal of this nature should be put to a referendum before it could be approved. I informed my constituent that if the mechanism of a referendum were used, it would need the support of a form of legislation because it was not ordinarily available and that the Parliament or the Government of the day had made the decision on this matter. I also informed my constituent that the Opposition had introduced a Bill into this Parliament, and if that Bill were successful, it would ensure that such a proposal could not be accepted by the Executive without the approval of the Parliament. On advising my constituent of that, she was far more relaxed about that proposition, rather than it simply being left to a whim or policy decision of the Government of the day.

The reason I raise that matter is that the motion before the House tonight is of value as a resolution, but that is all. It reflects the view of the Parliament today, and presumably it reflects the view of the Parliament because it reflects the view of the Government. However, it is not binding. It does not bind the Executive. It does not compel the Executive to keep to that position. It does not stop the Executive making a different decision tomorrow or next week.

There is just a small ounce of cynicism about the promises made by politicians from all sides. There is a modicum of cynicism when politicians go to the public and say that something is a policy, because the public understands what policies are, and it understands that policies and promises are not always delivered. Members will remember that in the 1993 election members of the coalition went to the people in Midland and promised them faithfully and absolutely that they would not close the Midland railway workshops. They asked the people of Midland for their trust. They said that they were honourable people who would not let them down, would not tell them lies and would not go back on their word. However, what did we see? Within six months the Government developed amnesia and changed its position. One could be generous and say that circumstances arose after that commitment was made that caused the Government to change its mind, or one could be cynical and say that the Government at that time did not want to indicate its position because it knew that it would not be popular in the electorate, and it therefore made a false promise, knowing it would be changed after the election. That is one issue.

Prior to the 1993 election, the Government said that it would introduce workplace agreements. It did not go as far as the Prime Minister with its industrial changes and promise that no worker would be worse off, but that was the inherent message. The electorate bought it. We now know that was an untruth: According to a report on a survey carried out by the Commissioner for Workplace Agreements and tabled in this place, we know that 25 per cent of workers are worse off. We have seen that come to pass. What is the answer to the people in the electorate who will ask members of the Government to what extent can they rely on government promises; to what extent can they rely on government policies; to what extent is the decision today likely to be the same as the decision tomorrow? On the track record of the Government, the answer is that one cannot be confident at all.

The Premier has even foreshadowed that he will get a few duds out the ministry. He uses this device 12 months prior to an election to get rid of the duds, to move on liabilities. He used it with great effect in the lead-up to the 1996 election. Twelve months before that election he shifted a whole range of people who had offended the sectors with which they dealt and put in other members to smile sweetly at these people. The then Minister for Labour Relations, the present Minister for the Environment, was given the job of Family and Children's Services, of smiling sweetly at people who were dealing with that department, telling them that they were lovely. That was all because of the way they had been treated by the former minister for over three years and the fact that they intended to get on their haunches and campaign against the Government. A few other changes were made by which ministers were appointed to different portfolios and were told to go in sweetly but to be careful about the promises they made, to give the impression of making promises without delivering and to calm down the people who were complaining. We are about to see this smoke and mirrors exercise again at the end of this year, when the duds will be moved on and different members will come into the ministry, who will once again smile sweetly at the people who have been offended over the past three years. Is there any reason members of the public have some doubt about government promises and government policy? I think there is.

The way to deal with this nuclear waste matter is not to pass simple motions that express a point of view but for those opposite to have the courage of their convictions; that is, by agreeing to the legislation the Opposition will put forward. In that way, the Government will be saying that this is not just a decision for today to overcome a political difficulty, but that this is something it believes in, something it is prepared deliver with as much certainty as possible to the people of Western Australia; that this is such a fundamental issue that on this occasion it should deliver certainty to the people of Western Australia to the extent that the Parliament can deliver it. The Government does not do that with this motion. Despite its being carried in the amended form, the motion does not do that. It expresses a will today which can be changed tomorrow.

I also support the motion because people have asked my view about disposing of nuclear waste in Western Australia. My concern about the uranium industry has always been that if we are significant players in that industry, sooner or later we will be forced to take the nuclear waste of others. That has always been a drawback of being a significant player in the export of uranium. Ultimately we will export to a country which will say, "We are sorry, but we now have a difficulty in dealing with the nuclear waste and we will look to countries that provide us with a whole service - to supply and take back the waste." We could always see this development occurring. We did not need to be terribly smart to see this development in the wings.

Mr Kierath: It hasn't occurred so far.

Mr BROWN: That is true, as the minister in his genius has said, although not too much uranium is exported from this State. I am vehemently opposed -

Mr Kierath: This is your preselection speech!

Mr BROWN: I do not have to worry about that. I have always been opposed to this type of process. As I said, one does not need to be a genius to work that out when looking at the economics of the situation. The economic analysis in the Pangea proposal is based on a 40-year cycle. I thought nuclear waste lasted a little longer than 40 years, just a small amount, not much - about a thousand times longer! When we look at this proposal, we can see that economics are simply not there. Leaving aside some cynicism that has been expressed by those on the other side of House for what it is worth, which is not much, in conclusion, I say that if the Government is serious and genuinely believes in this motion, that this is the appropriate position for the State of Western Australia, tomorrow it will support the Bill to be brought forward by the Opposition; however, if this is simply a political ploy, an attempt to try to get this issue off the political agenda - we will see that tomorrow by the Government's actions - it simply will not work.

MR RIPPER (Belmont - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [7.48 pm]: It has been an amazing day in the Parliament. Straight after question time, after debate on one other motion, the Government moved to suspend standing orders so that we could debate the agenda of the Leader of the Opposition. That is an amazing concession from the Government. The Leader of the Opposition has been raising this issue publicly, saying that the Parliament must pass legislation to prevent a nuclear waste dump from being established in Western Australia. Remarkably, the Government decided to spend most of the first sitting day of this week on the very issue on which the Leader of the Opposition has been campaigning. Whose strategy is this? I could not believe my luck when I heard that the Government was about to embark on this approach. I asked myself whose strategy it was. It struck me that it was that of the "Nervous Nelly Backbencher" faction of the coalition. Someone in a marginal seat said, "The issue is hurting us. We should be given an opportunity to say something on the record. Perhaps if we all make speeches in the Parliament, we could then send out the *Hansard* and show that we are pure on Pangea and pure on the question of a nuclear waste dump. It does not matter what Ian Fletcher does and it does not matter what Clive Griffiths does, we are okay; we have made the statement in Parliament and we will demonstrate that to our constituents."

I say to the nervous Nelly backbencher faction that it will not work. It will not work with nuclear waste dumps and the bad news is it will not work with forests either. It does not matter what position government members take personally or what personal communication they may have with their electors; they are members of the coalition Government who will be bound by the decisions, affected by the decisions and tarred with the decisions made by their leadership and its cronies. They will be tarred with the decisions made by the Government on forests and tarred with the mixed messages sent out by the Government on the Pangea question.

Mr Court: You have beaten up something that is not there.

Mr RIPPER: The Premier says that we have beaten up something that is not there. If the Premier is dinkum about his desire to not have a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia, he will support the Bill proposed by the Leader of the Opposition because this motion is not good enough; it does not bind this Government. The Government could make a decision tomorrow to begin negotiations with Pangea, even after this resolution is passed by this House. It does not bind this Government and it certainly does not bind any future Government. If a Government wants a strong statement from a Parliament, it puts it into law because that is the strongest statement that a Parliament can make. The Australian Labor Party proposes to put into law a prohibition against a nuclear waste dump. If the Premier and the Minister for the Environment are dinkum about their views on this issue they should support the Bill to be introduced tomorrow into Parliament by the Leader of the Opposition. Perhaps we can debate it next week when the Government has had a chance to look at the detail. We will then put the Government to the test again to see whether it is prepared to put a prohibition against a nuclear waste dump into Western Australian law.

I appreciate that even if the Bill becomes law, there will be difficulties with binding a future Government. A future Government could have a majority in both Houses of Parliament and have the capacity therefore to repeal legislation made by a previous Government. However, the existence of such a law would still be a hindrance even to a Government with such a majority. The Government, even though it was in that position, would not be able to act unilaterally. It would have to pass legislation through the Parliament before it could conclude arrangements with a company like Pangea, and that would be a significant obstacle.

However, here is the rub. I do not believe that future Governments in this State will be in a position to control both Houses of Parliament. The electoral system that exists in the upper House and the way in which the community is voting now means that in future most Governments in this State will be without a guaranteed majority in the upper House. If the legislation proposed by the Leader of the Opposition is passed by both Houses, most probably no future Government will have the

capacity, on the basis of its own numbers in the Parliament, to repeal that legislation. If we pass the legislation suggested by the Leader of the Opposition, we could be putting a very substantial obstacle in the way of any future Government concluding negotiations with Pangea or anyone else who wants to store toxic nuclear waste in Western Australia because they think of it as a large, open, unpopulated place in which there are not enough people to matter.

I reiterate to members of the Government that the issue will not go away. Tomorrow the Leader of the Opposition's legislation will be introduced. Next week we will debate the Bill in private members' business and put the Government to the test. How dinkum is the Government? Is it prepared to a vote only for a non-binding symbolic resolution of the Parliament, or is it prepared to put into law something which more than likely will be an extremely serious obstacle to any future Government bringing nuclear waste from overseas to Western Australia?

MRS EDWARDES (Kingsley - Minister for the Environment) [7.55 pm]: The motion moved by the Government makes its intentions very clear. Despite what members opposite say, they are ramping up an issue which does not exist. The Government moved the motion to ensure that its public statements are reinforced in this place and, if passed, it will reflect the Parliament's intention that Western Australia will not become a dumping ground for international nuclear waste. Every country has a responsibility to take care of its nuclear waste. Australia is doing that currently at the possible site in the Roxby Downs area in South Australia that has been identified for the dumping of waste emanating from the Lucas Heights nuclear facility. Western Australia is a clean, green State. We sell our products overseas on the basis that we have clean water and clean land. Tourists come here drawn by our natural attractions. The Government wants to ensure that Western Australia remains a destination for tourists. The Government will not support the amendment. We have not seen the proposed legislation referred to by the members opposite. We do not know whether the legislation is adequate to achieve exactly what this Parliament is about to pass; that is, a definitive statement that Western Australia will not become a dumping ground for international nuclear waste.

Amendment put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (17)

Mr Brown	Mr Grill	Mr McGinty	Mr Ripper
Mr Carpenter	Mr Kobelke	Mr McGowan	Mrs Roberts
Dr Edwards	Ms MacTiernan	Ms McHale	Ms Warnock
Dr Gallop	Mr Marlborough	Mr Riebeling	Mr Cunningham (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr Graham			

Noes (30)

Mr Ainsworth	Mr Day	Mr Marshall	Mr Shave
Mr Baker	Mrs Edwardes	Mr Masters	Mr Sweetman
Mr Barnett	Dr Hames	Mr McNee	Mr Tubby
Mr Bloffwitch	Mrs Hodson-Thomas	Mr Minson	Dr Turnbull
Mr Board	Mrs Holmes	Mr Nicholls	Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Bradshaw	Mr House	Mr Omodei	Mr Wiese
Dr Constable	Mr Johnson	Mr Pental	Mr Osborne (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr Court	Mr Kierath		

Pairs

Mr Thomas	Mr Cowan
Ms Anwyl	Mr Prince

Amendment thus negatived.

Motion Resumed

Question put and passed.

TRIAL OF PROPOSED STANDING ORDERS

Motion

MR BARNETT (Cottesloe - Leader of the House) [8.02 pm] - by leave: I move -

That from Wednesday 8 September 1999 for the remainder of 1999, the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly be suspended and the proposed standing orders set out in volume 2 of the report of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee on the modernisation of the standing orders be substituted, with the following adjustments -

- (a) proposed Standing Orders Nos 222 to 234 relating to Estimates Committees be deleted;
- (b) proposed Standing Order No 59(2) relating to the Address-in-Reply be deleted;
- (c) proposed Standing Order No 128 relating to pecuniary interests be deleted and existing Standing Orders Nos 195 and 196 be substituted and numbered as standing order 128(1) and (2);
- (d) proposed Standing Order No 58(9) and (13), relating to disallowance of subordinate legislation be deleted; and

- (e) proposed Standing Order No 175(3) relating to Consideration in Detail be deleted.

Ever since the Legislative Assembly established the Select Committee on Procedure in September 1994 there has been a constant desire to find acceptable ways to more effectively and efficiently use the time of the House. I remind members that since the Select Committee on Procedure was established, a number of reforms have been made in this Parliament. For example, we have seen the expansion of budget estimates committees, the establishment of the Standing Committee on Legislation, the introduction of brief ministerial statements and private members' statements, supplementary questions in question time, a right of reply by members of the public, and changes to sitting hours to make them eminently more friendly to members and their families. In each case procedural change has been introduced gradually into the Legislative Assembly, and it has been done by the use of sessional orders and trials to allow members to evaluate each innovation properly. Although some may say the change has been slow, the history of the Parliament shows there has been more reform in the past three or four years than in the preceding 100 years. I compliment the committee and you, Mr Speaker, on that.

Mr Graham: More change, but less reform.

Mr BARNETT: Yes. This report of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee on the Modernisation of the Standing Orders, which was tabled in this House on 13 May 1999, sets about modernising the standing orders. In a brief ministerial statement on 30 June this year, I signalled the Government's intention to trial the majority of the proposed new standing orders as developed by the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee. Members will note from this motion that, while that has been honoured, a small number of proposed changes have been left out of the trial. I will explain to the House why the Government has chosen to do that.

First, Standing Orders Nos 222 to 234 relating to estimates committees are not included. The obvious reason is that the estimates committees will operate in May next year, and this trial is scheduled to operate over the remainder of this calendar year. A suggestion was made about the inclusion of non-consolidated fund agencies within the estimates committees - agencies such as Homeswest, the Water Corporation, AlintaGas and Western Power. Quite a bit of discussion was held about that. In principle, as I have indicated previously, the non-CF, or government trading enterprises, should be subject to scrutiny but I do not believe the estimates committee is the appropriate forum.

Mr Ripper: You will sell them all before we get the chance!

Mr BARNETT: That could well be. The Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee may provide a better forum for progressive scrutiny of the performance of GTEs, and they should not all necessarily be scrutinised in any one year. Perhaps a rolling program over two to three years would be more appropriate, when the agencies could be scrutinised on both policy and accountability. In principle, I will support that.

The report also referred to the establishment of portfolio-based standing committees. This House has operated under select committees and discussion has been held on whether they should be replaced by portfolio-based standing committees. A majority of government members probably support that, although there are differing views. As indicated previously, before the end of the year I will bring on a formal motion for debate about the establishment of standing committees. I foreshadow a proposal to set up three standing committees to come into effect following the next election; in other words, during the course of the next Parliament. That will take out much of the politics and the contentious issues, and it will allow the existing select committees to effectively wind down.

Proposed Standing Order No 59(2) relates to the Address-in-Reply. It was proposed that after the initial period of debate, the debate should be adjourned but allowed to be continued every Tuesday evening. The Government does not agree to that. That would allow both Wednesday afternoon and Tuesday evening for private members' business. It also takes away the right of the Government and the right of the Leader of the House to determine when the Address-in-Reply comes on. The Government does not support that and will not trial it. The present arrangement, under which the Address-in-Reply is adjourned after the initial four or five days, and is brought back on for debate so that all members have an opportunity to make a speech in the debate, has worked efficiently and the Government will maintain that.

Proposed new Standing Order No 128 relates to pecuniary interests. It may well be subject to change and there should be a debate on that. However, we cannot trial the pecuniary interest proposal. If this House believes the standard of pecuniary interest should be changed, that should be done by way of substantive motion and amendment to the standing orders. In principle, I do not object to that but I do not think it can be trialled.

Proposed Standing Order Nos 58(9) and (13) relate to the propriety of motions for the disallowance of subordinate legislation. I remind members that this Parliament has the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation which can deal with those issues. Often disallowance motions are moved in the other place. If members opposite wish to move disallowance motions, they can give notice and deal with them in private members' time. The Government does not agree with priority for disallowance motions, which would effectively duplicate what happens in the upper House, set up a whole lot of debates and interfere with the normal government management of business. All sorts of disallowance motions are moved in the other House and brought before the Parliament. Typically, they are moved by opposition members outside the membership of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation. One example was disallowance of the Town of Cottesloe tree preservation local laws. I do not know that this Parliament should worry about those issues too much. In this House, eight motions were moved in June this year - seven in the last two sitting weeks. I suggest there is more politics in that than a genuine regard for the adequacy of legislation. If members in this House wish to move for disallowance, they should do so during private members' business. In the past, members have moved disallowance motions, put out press releases and made a great fuss but have never brought the motions forward for debate. If members opposite believe that legislation should be disallowed, they should bring the relevant motion forward for debate. Typically that has not happened.

This motion suggests that proposed Standing Order No 175(3) not be adopted. The Speaker and the Clerk of the House have advised that it should not be adopted because the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee did not intend that an additional question be put at the end of the consideration in detail stage. This provision should have been removed from earlier drafts and that is now being done.

Even though the Government has taken those positions on Estimates Committees, standing orders, disallowance motions and an automatic extension during the right of reply, they are modest modifications. We should not lose sight of the fact that these proposed changes introduce a number of important reforms to the procedures of this House. The introduction of a new process for legislation which eliminates one day from the current procedure and which makes it plain that it will not be possible to introduce a Bill without making a copy available at the first reading stage is important. The provision of an explanatory memorandum for every Bill is a good reform. I have some concerns about the fact that debate on Bills will be automatically adjourned for at least three weeks. However, I am told that that is what happens, so I am willing to give it a go.

The replacement of the Committee of the Whole with Consideration in Detail will avoid much breaking from the Chair and moving into Committee. This is a sensible reform. The clear provision for general debates on the Address-in-Reply, Appropriation Bills, Treasurer's advance legislation, Supply Bills and Loan Bills will clarify the point of contention about what is and is not a general debate. The reordering of business on Tuesdays to enable questions without notice to be taken as close as possible to 2.00 pm is important for observers of Parliament. The renaming of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee to the Procedure and Privileges Committee is appropriate. A number of changes to the committee system will improve the functioning of this House.

The Government has looked very carefully at the committee's recommendations. This process represents the first complete rewriting of the standing orders in 100 years, and that is no mean achievement. I thank all members of the committee for the work they have done. I believe the trial will be successful and, if it is, the Government will support the permanent introduction of these changes to the standing orders.

MRS ROBERTS (Midland) [8.15 pm]: The Leader of the House has suggested that what he has proposed are modest modifications to the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee's report. I do not see them as modest modifications but, rather, significant modifications. This motion outlines the deletion of a number of standing orders. The Opposition has no difficulty with the deletion outlined in paragraph (e) of the motion, but paragraphs (a) to (d) raise significant issues.

Paragraph (a) represents a significant accountability failure on the Government's part. In broad terms, the Government's proposal indicates that it is not prepared to make this Parliament more accountable to the people of Western Australia. I find that extremely disappointing.

Paragraph (c) refers to pecuniary interests, and the Opposition will not oppose the deletion of that standing order. However, I find it concerning that we have a Government that says, through the Leader of the House, this is a matter for debate at another time. It has been some years since the recommendations of the Commission on Government and -

Mr Barnett: I am not opposing a change to the pecuniary interest requirements, but if we trial it some member could be found to be inadvertently at error in a declaration. It is not something we should trial. If we want to change it, let us do so. If we trial it, some member might be caught out totally innocently, and that is unfair.

Mrs ROBERTS: That is a sustainable argument. However, the Government should have come forward with its own proposal.

Mr Barnett: I will cop that.

Mrs ROBERTS: The Leader of the House suggests that this is a debate for another day. The problem with this Government is that that day never seems to come. The Government should show leadership in this issue. The committee proposed a trial and the Government knocked it back, but it has not made any other suggestion. That is my objection.

Mr Barnett: I am prepared to bring that on for debate.

Mrs ROBERTS: I look forward to that. The Opposition would like to see higher standards of accountability in this House and a more appropriate system for the declaration of pecuniary interests.

Paragraph (a) refers to the deletion of Standing Orders Nos 222 to 234 and the Estimates Committees. The Opposition is very disappointed with the Government's lack of accountability in this area. Members on this side have made recommendations in this place, not only through the Standing Orders Committee but also through other committees of this House - committees that have had a majority of government members - mirroring those made by the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee about government trading enterprises being accountable to the Estimates Committees.

Mr Barnett: There are some points in that. However, the obvious point is that there will not be an Estimates Committee between now and Christmas. I am not prepared to enter into a debate about the structure and content of the Estimates Committees. There is no point in trialling something that will not happen.

Mrs ROBERTS: The difficulty is that there never seems to be any proposal from the Government. Committees have recommended these changes for some years. This Government has put more and more government agencies at arm's length from the estimates committee process.

Mr Barnett: I suggested that the Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee may well set up a rolling process of scrutiny of government trading enterprises.

Mrs ROBERTS: It is not acceptable to have a rolling process whereby a GTE might be examined every second or third year. Like government departments, they should be annually accountable. They are public agencies dealing with public money. They should be subject to scrutiny by the people of Western Australia through their elected members.

Mr Barnett: I am amenable to proposals, but there is no point trialling something that will not happen during the trial period.

Mrs ROBERTS: If I move this -

Mr Barnett: I will happily debate the format of the Estimates Committees; in fact, I welcome some questions.

Mrs ROBERTS: I put the Leader of the House on notice that the Opposition strongly believes that members on this side should be able to ask questions about those trading enterprises. That view has been expressed in this House a number of times and it has been supported by many committees, including the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee, which has a majority of government members. Many government backbenchers support the view that it is not appropriate that these agencies are not subject to the scrutiny of the Parliament. I look forward to putting that proposition on notice before the next estimates committee hearings.

Paragraph (b) of the motion proposes that Standing Order No 59(2), relating to the Address-in-Reply, be deleted. Again, I am very disappointed. The Government has acted in a dishonourable way. This was a matter of some compromise between the Government and the Opposition. The first part of proposed new Standing Order No 59 reduces the number of days over which the Address-in-Reply will be debated. The report suggests that it be debated over four days including opening day except following a general election, which would be seven days including the opening day. The other side to that same point was that the Address-in-Reply be debated on Tuesday nights subsequent to that.

Mr Barnett: That would be effectively two sessions of private members' business.

Mrs ROBERTS: Why not delete subparagraphs (a) and (b)? The Leader of the House has accepted the gift and deleted the other half.

Mr Barnett: It has been the practice in the past few years to suspend the Address-in-Reply after three or four days of debate. This year it was debated for five days.

Mrs ROBERTS: The standing orders provide for the Address-in-Reply to be debated until the motion is put. The Opposition has indicated that it is prepared to limit the number of days of debate on the Address-in-Reply and to square up the ledger by allocating Tuesday nights for debating the Address-in-Reply. With this proposal the Leader of the House wants to take measures that will benefit the Government and give nothing in return. That is dishonourable. He should stick to the existing standing orders if he is not prepared to give as well as take.

Mr Barnett: I don't really care. If you want to go back to the original standing orders, so be it. This Government, and the Labor Party when it is in government, will not accept loss of control of the business of the House. As Leader of the House I will never agree to that.

Mrs ROBERTS: In which case the honourable thing to do would be to go back to the original standing orders.

Mr Barnett: It could be one of the things we do not adopt after the trial.

Mrs ROBERTS: The report of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee refers to Standing Order No 58(9) and disallowance of subordinate legislation - notice of motion one week after notice is given - and paragraph (13) on disallowance of subordinate legislation - notice of motion when notice is given.

The intent of a standing order is to bring the Government to account. We should not be limited to when we can bring on these matters. Some disallowance motions sit on the Notice Paper for an inordinate amount of time.

Mr Barnett: In terms of accountability, you do not bring them forward.

Mrs ROBERTS: It is all very well for the Leader of the House to say that we should bring them on in private members' time. As he well knows, we have three hours of private members' time a week.

Mr Barnett: Most of which you waste.

Mrs ROBERTS: That is the opinion of the Leader of the House; it is not the Opposition's opinion.

Mr Barnett: You barely have a member in the House during private members' time.

Mrs ROBERTS: That is not true. The Leader of the House would not know because he is rarely here. Having sat through most of private members' time during the past two and half years, I know which side of the House has the most members present during that time. The Leader of the House is not interested in letting me highlight that this is yet another accountability test the Government has failed.

It means that when subordinate legislation is brought forward and a disallowance motion is put, it will get a spot on our parliamentary agenda. Time and again when we bring matters forward during private members' time many members opposite waste our time for the sake of it because we list two or three different items. Part of the Government's tactic is often not to let us get onto the second and third items in case it is too embarrassing. The Opposition is saying that disallowance motions are an important part of the parliamentary process. Time should be allocated in which they can be brought on. They should not be dependent on private members' time.

We have some Independent members in this Chamber and we may get more in the future, or even members from minor parties. That being the case, expecting them to take a small amount of private members' time in order to bring on a disallowance motion is not the right thing to do. The Government would be far more accountable if it knew that a disallowance motion were to be raised within a week or, in the case of paragraph (13), when notice is given.

As a signatory to this report and a member of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee that presented this report to the Assembly for consideration, I support most of the recommendations therein. However, I am disappointed that the Government has seen fit to delete some of the matters that the committee proposed for trial because it does not want to be accountable to the House. However, the Leader of the House has given some undertakings this evening which I have noted and which I will raise again in this House. It is very important that government trading enterprises be accountable to the Parliament annually.

Mr Barnett: They should be accountable, but not under the same rules that apply to government departments. The pure GTEs - Western Power and AlintaGas are the only two - are subject to a body of corporate law. Unless we deal with that we will have a huge problem on our hands in terms of accountability. The normal Estimates Committee will not work effectively at law for GTEs. They should be examined under another procedure. They should be accountable on policy issues and we should be able to query forecasts, strategic plans and the like. If we query commercial contracts, for example, people will not be willing to take on the position of directors of those agencies. There are complexities that we must think through.

Dr Hames: I have no problem with questions being put to Homeswest and the Water Corporation. Some ground can be covered on that by putting in place an alternative process as the minister suggested.

Mrs ROBERTS: I hope this is not lip service. I have heard government members and ministers say before that they agree with us in principle, but nothing has happened. The Standing Orders and Procedure Committee made this recommendation because it believes change should happen in this regard. If the Government disagrees on the mechanism for it, or it has another proposal, it is beholden on the Government to bring it forward. Members opposite, who are in government, say they want to be open and accountable. Many ministers and members have said that they agree.

Mr Barnett: There is a step in between. The Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee is due to report on this before the end of the year. We should wait for its report and recommendations.

Mrs ROBERTS: I will be interested to see its report. I hope this is not yet another exercise in procrastination.

Dr Hames: We should talk about it again later.

Mrs ROBERTS: It seems to be a matter that has been debated for some years. As a greater degree of contracting out and privatisation of more government agencies is proposed, this should be urgently addressed and not left in the too-hard basket for too long. I have similar concerns about pecuniary interests. We now expect high levels of accountability from local government, for example, in this area; yet I do not think our system of declaration of pecuniary interest is particularly effective or accountable.

Again it is beholden on the Government to take some action. It is well aware of the proposals of the Commission on Government and of various other people's comments and reports on this matter. I do not think ministers can just sit there and knock all those proposals while not offering a proposal of their own. There seems to be general agreement that the existing system is not ideal. However, every proposal for change seems to get knocked back. Therefore, I think it is beholden on the Government to take up the issue strongly, bring something to the Parliament and allocate government time so that we can have a much better system for the declaration of pecuniary interests, one in which we are more accountable to those people who elect us.

Amendment to Motion

MR RIPPER (Belmont - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [8.30 pm]: I move -

That the motion be amended by deleting paragraph (a).

This is the first of a series of three amendments which I propose to move to underline the Opposition's position on the motion moved by the Leader of the House. Before I debate the specifics of my amendment, I will make a few general comments about parliamentary reform. It would be wrong if a myth were to develop that parliamentary reform is something that has happened only under this coalition Government. It would be wrong if people were to form the view that there had been decades of stagnation followed by a flowering of reform under the Leader of the House.

I have served in this House on both sides. I was a government backbencher and a minister, and now I am in Opposition. I remember some of the reforms that were introduced under the previous Government. One of those reforms, for example, was the introduction of brief ministerial statements in an effort to stamp out the abuse of question time, often known as dorothea dixers. A second reform introduced during that period was the introduction of Estimates Committees. Many people here may not realise what an awful process this House had for the examination of the budget prior to the introduction of Estimates Committees. A third reform introduced under the Government of Carmen Lawrence was more businesslike sitting hours. When the coalition came to power, those more businesslike sitting hours were reversed. We have only recently returned to a sitting hours pattern much like that which existed in the last two or three years of the Labor Government. We have returned to a situation in which we are not required to sit on Wednesday nights.

Mr Graham: The great reformer is in fact the great returner.

Mr RIPPER: Yes.

Mr Barnett: I did not make it clear which side of the House I had to reform, did I?

Mr RIPPER: In these last two terms of the Parliament while the Labor Party has been in Opposition, it has been committed to parliamentary reform. The Opposition has cooperated with the Government in parliamentary reform. It has encouraged the Government to undertake speedier reform of the Parliament. It has pointed out areas in which the Government could reform but has not. By and large, it has supported the process in a non-partisan way.

I am a member of the Standing Orders and Procedures Committee. I support the report which is the basis for the motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition. I commend the report to the House, and I repeat the thanks that we all extended at the time the report was tabled to the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and other staff of the House who contributed so much to the trial of the proposed new standing orders which we are all about to approve.

One of the problems with reform of standing orders is that reform must be considered as a package. Often, a change to one standing order will have an impact on the way in which another standing order operates. Changes to one standing order can alter the balance between Government and Opposition, and that balance might need to be restored by compensating changes to another standing order. These are matters which are debated and considered carefully within the Standing Orders and Procedures Committee. It is therefore disturbing to members of the committee when the Government picks and chooses from the package of changes recommended by the committee and decides to accept some and reject others. It is sometimes felt on this side of the House that the Government is inclined to choose those reforms which advantage it and to reject the compensating reforms which maintain the balance between Government and Opposition.

The Leader of the House has, by and large, endorsed the proposed trial standing orders, but he has moved a motion by which some of the proposed changes will not be trialled. We oppose his deletion of three of those proposed changes. The amendment I have moved deals with the first change that he proposes. The Leader of the House in his motion proposes to delete the standing orders relating to Estimates Committees from the trial. I understand that during the period of the trial there will be no state budget and therefore no need for Estimates Committees. We are in effect having a debate about something that is theory rather than practice for the purposes of a trial.

Nevertheless, an important change is embodied in the Standing Orders and Procedures Committee recommendation on Estimates Committees. That is the change about which my colleague the member for Midland was talking; in other words, the possibility for Estimates Committee examination of off-budget authorities. The possibility of Estimates Committee examination of off-budget authorities is something which the Leader of the House supported when he was in opposition. He has from time to time in Government expressed positive sentiments about the possibility of this sort of Estimates Committee examination. Nevertheless, what has happened is that we have never actually seen him act in a way which will ensure that this happens. Once again he has indicated that he is not prepared to bite the bullet and include this matter in the proposed trial of standing orders. He is arguing that the Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee is examining the issue; therefore, this is yet another reason not to make the final decision and do in government what he advocated in opposition.

The Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee can examine the activities of government trading enterprises at any time a majority of the committee decides that is what it wants to do. It can decide that it wants to conduct an inquiry into the annual report of Western Power. It could bring in the Western Power executives and question them if the government majority on that committee wanted to do that. Estimates Committee examination, however, is different. It would allow people who are not members of the Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee to ask these questions of government and government trading enterprise officials if the minister implemented in Government what he supported in opposition. That is important. Many people have a direct interest in these matters, particularly opposition spokespersons. Opposition spokespersons will not necessarily be members of the Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee, and therefore they will not have the same chance as opposition spokespersons dealing with on-budget authorities to ask these questions.

Mr Barnett: The Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee is a well set up procedure that is available to all members to attend. It does not have to be within the confines of a committee. It can oversee a process similar to Estimates Committees. I think it must be different but similar. Let us face the reality, which is that we struggle to have members from either side of the House sit through the week of Estimates Committees. If you want to load into that a whole lot of GTEs, we will either have to reduce the time dramatically or we will run out of people. Therefore, why not have a separate process of accountability which the Government will support?

Mr RIPPER: I have been on plenty of Estimates Committees at which we have run out of time. I have routinely left Estimates Committees with several dozen questions that I have not had the chance to ask.

Mr Barnett: You and I both know that Estimates Committees are the Whips' nightmare.

Mr RIPPER: The Whips may have some trouble populating Estimates Committees. However, there are many other members who are more eager than that. Plenty have had my experience of leaving Estimates Committees with questions which they have not been able to ask and have been faced with the choice of having them placed on the Notice Paper and having them answered three months later. There is no doubt that the Estimates Committee process is one of the best processes of the House for examining the performance of the Government. We might have one week for on-budget authorities and a similar process later in the year for off-budget authorities. I am not entirely unhappy with the comments of the Leader of the House. He does seem to say that next year some process may be agreed between the Government and Opposition.

Mr Barnett: I am prepared to give an undertaking to bring on a debate on standing committees before Christmas, if you will bring on the debate on Estimates Committees. I suggest we wait until we get the reports of the public accounts committee which I understand may be late this year. The debate will then be early next year. I am prepared to see how we can include government trading enterprises. There are some differing and complex issues relating to government trading enterprises because of the way they are structured at law.

Mr RIPPER: I would be interested to have further explanation of those difficulties. I would like to ask the minister and his officials further questions. The minister is always able to say that information cannot be provided as it is commercially confidential. The minister will attract criticism for taking that stand. However, if he genuinely believes that some matters should not be revealed to the public, the minister can stand on the merits of the case. The minister can be asked questions but has the option of choosing how to answer them. If the minister responsible for Western Power wants to say, when questioned at an Estimates Committee, that he cannot reveal the price of power in contract with Mission Energy, he can do so. I am not sure why we will need new rules in relation to Estimates Committee examinations of off-budget authorities.

Mr Barnett: Are you going to have the chief executive officer or the chairman of the board?

Mr RIPPER: I would have said the chief executive officer. When we have the Disabilities Services Commission in who do we have?

Mr Barnett: It is quite different at law. The CEO reports to the board which is subject to the Companies and Securities Code. I am not being difficult - issues need to be thought through properly.

Mr RIPPER: By the time that we get to the next budget round, we should be in a position to examine off-budget authorities. I have moved this amendment in view of the minister's comments that he is prepared to have a debate on this issue. I will not take the issue to a division as that would be churlish. The Opposition will vote for its amendment as we want to underline the principle that this set of standing orders should be accepted. If the minister believes that there are difficulties, let him outline them to the House or to the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee. We will be happy to debate the subtleties connected with these matters. Some advance has been made because the minister has given a commitment for debate, and perhaps a decision, before the next budget round is reached.

MR BLOFFWITCH (Geraldton) [8.47 pm]: I do not support the amendment. I understand the feelings of the Opposition. There has been give and take in order to arrive at the Government's position. We are heartened by the minister who is telling us that we are not dealing with a parliamentary body, but with a corporation under Corporation Law. There are restrictions on what can be passed and what can be said under Corporations Law. As we fund those bodies we have the right to investigate them. With consideration and thought we will be able to achieve that. Other pleasing changes are to the presentation of petitions, which should become simpler to read. The committee system cannot change until the next election because we will not know what to do with the select committees that are in place if we install the other committees now. Would we cancel them or have work duplicated? After the next election is the right time for the new committees to start. They will be an advancement for this Parliament, allowing members the opportunity to sit on the committees. I will not support the amendment but I hope that debate will allow us to achieve what we want to achieve.

Amendment put and negatived.

Amendment to Motion

MR RIPPER (Belmont - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [8.49 pm]: I move-

That the motion be amended by deleting paragraph (b).

This is a classic case of a bargain which was struck in committee which the Government is now wrecking by choosing the bit that advantages it and rejecting the countervailing concession to the Opposition's position. We considered in committee the Address-in-Reply debate. In some ways it is unsatisfactory to the Government and the Opposition. From the Government's point of view the debate continues for a long period and prevents the Government from embarking on its legislative program. This is particularly difficult given the early introduction of the Budget. The autumn sittings of Parliament have been largely taken up by the Address-in-Reply debate and then the budget debate. In any case, with the new prorogation and opening of parliament arrangements, it is possible that the spring sessions will have a large amount of time taken up by the Address-in-Reply, which will delay consideration of the Government's legislation. From the Opposition's point of view, its members have to give an enormous number of speeches which places a large organisational and performance load on them without there being much return for them in public or media attention to what is being said.

The Address-in-Reply is now an inefficient and cumbersome part of our process which suits neither the Government nor the Opposition. The committee considered what might be done about it and decided that limits should be accorded to the Address-in-Reply debate. It decided that in a usual parliamentary year the Address-in-Reply should be accorded priority for four sitting days, and after a general election it should be accorded priority for seven sitting days. Although I have criticised the Address-in-Reply process, there is some merit in opening a parliamentary year with a general survey of all of the issues which might be of concern in the community. There is also some merit in the Address-in-Reply debate having some priority, but not to the extent that we have had recently.

It might be argued that the arrangement which has been suggested by the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee provides an advantage to the Government by which it is able to get its legislation program under way earlier than otherwise would have been the case; however, there is a possible disadvantage for the Opposition. Once the Address-in-Reply is not accorded priority, the Government can decide to bring it on at any time that suits it. The Government might do that at 11.30 pm each

night or at 10 o'clock on the last sitting day with a suggestion that as soon as the Address-in-Reply is concluded, we have the crayfish supper and go home. The Government can do all sorts of things when it has that flexibility.

The countervailing concession agreed to in the committee was that, although the Address-in-Reply debate would not have priority, the standing order would provide that it be debated on Tuesday nights. I know Leaders of the House want flexibility. That was not denied by the proposed standing order, because it had the words "unless otherwise ordered". The Leader of the House could have moved a motion on any Tuesday -

Mr Barnett: And we would debate that!

Mr RIPPER: The Leader of the House might cop some criticism, depending on the success of his negotiations with the Opposition. All in all, I thought that was a very reasonable compromise. A cumbersome process that has some disadvantages for the Government and the Opposition was amended and efforts were made to ensure the balance that previously existed between the Government and the Opposition in the standing orders was maintained. Two changes were linked. The Leader of the House has picked the change that suits the Government and rejected the change that suits the Opposition.

Mr Barnett: One of the privileges of Government.

Mr RIPPER: That might be so, but it tends to undermine the careful work which the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee undertakes. Members of this committee do not approach these matters in a partisan way. We try to image the situation from both opposition and government perspectives. Certainly we on the opposition side expect to be occupying the Treasury bench in due course, perhaps not so long away. We are concerned that we have a set of standing orders which will enable us to govern and legislate effectively. At this stage of the electoral cycle, given the way things are moving, we are not unmindful of the Government's position when it comes to considering issues relating to the standing orders. We object to the deletion from the trial made by the Leader of the House. Had he not made the deletion, at this stage of the parliamentary week most likely we would be debating the Address-in-Reply until it had concluded. There might be some government concern about flexibility; however, the Address-in-Reply would not last for the entire parliamentary session. Once the Address-in-Reply priority had finished, the Opposition would prefer the mechanisms of the debates on matters of public interest and private members' business for pursuing matters of political controversy. I am concerned and disappointed that the Leader of the House has adopted this approach and that is why I have moved this amendment.

MR BARNETT (Cottesloe - Leader of the House) [8.55 pm]: I agree with the Deputy Leader of the Opposition that coming at the beginning of a parliamentary session, the Address-in-Reply allows for a general debate and is valuable, particularly for new members; however, as proposed, it would have meant the debate on the Address-in-Reply running to four or five days. It could have come on automatically every Tuesday evening. Although the Leader of the House of the day could move to alter that, the spirit of the standing order would have been that it would automatically continue on a Tuesday. Even members opposite would work out pretty quickly that every Tuesday evening they would move an amendment to the Address-in-Reply and, effectively, we would have another session for private members' business. In opposition, both sides would do that, and we would have two sessions on private members' business. That is not required.

In recent years, the Address-in-Reply process has worked quite well, where we let the debate go for a few days. It has come back before the House generally at a time agreed to by members on both sides of the House to allow those members who did not speak during the debate, but who wanted to make a speech typically about their electorate, to do so often at a time convenient to them; for example, if representatives of their electorate are in the House. That has been done on a number of occasions.

Private members' time may have been discussed in the committee and perhaps there was no agreement on what should happen. It seems to me, from experience both in opposition and in government, that private members' time is no longer effective in this Parliament. I do not make that as a political comment; I simply say that the most effective private members' time is during the debates on matters of public interest. These are short, sharp debates in which contentious issues are dealt with fairly and openly. An extended private members' time, running for three hours, is largely dysfunctional. It was the same for us when we were in opposition and is so for those opposite. It is hard work in opposition to maintain a debate and a rage for three hours. This Parliament would be better served were we perhaps to have more matters of public interest debates, each for a lesser duration. It is probably not a sensible thing for a Leader of the House to say that a Parliament would work more effectively with short, succinct private members' times on almost a daily basis. I am not opposed to that. I am sure it is not a smart tactic for a Government to say that in the lead-up to an election, but post-election that might be something upon which to get some bipartisan agreement.

MR BLOFFWITCH (Geraldton) [8.58 pm]: The Leader of the House is missing the way the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee went about this issue. We decided that seven days spent on the debate on the Address-in-Reply would be quite sufficient. It would give members who wanted to run their amendments a chance to do so, and to get their issues up at the time they wanted. The committee then decided that as the year went on, the debate on a Tuesday night would give members an opportunity to talk about issues that were relevant to them at that time. Whether we like it or not, not all of us have a burning issue to bring to the House in every week of the year. From time to time we have issues to raise and we make a note of them. By conducting business in the way that has been suggested, members would have an opportunity to bring forward a subject that was very relevant to them or to their electorates. It was in that spirit that we decided on Tuesday night.

Mr Ripper: Taking into account the Leader of the House's objections, does the member for Geraldton think that no amendments to the Address-in-Reply being allowed after the priority period would be a way of dealing with his argument that there should be a second private members' business period every Tuesday night?

Mr BLOFFWITCH: These are things we can discuss and work out between ourselves so that there will be an effective period for members to have their say on issues relevant to them at that time. I am sure the minister would not object to the agreeable suggestion made by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Amendment put and negatived.

Amendment to Motion

MR RIPPER (Belmont - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [9.01 pm]: I move -

That the motion be amended by deleting paragraph (d).

Paragraph (d) relates to the standing orders which give priority to the disallowance of subordinate legislation when a disallowance motion has been on the Notice Paper for a week. Members have a real problem with disallowance motions in this House. We do not give disallowance motions any priority; they are considered only in private members' business. There have been occasions when ministers have approached the Opposition and asked it to move a disallowance motion on a particular private members' business day because of the uncertainty which the disallowance is creating in the community.

Mr Barnett: That is inappropriate. If a minister wants a disallowance motion moved, it should be moved in government business.

Mr RIPPER: That is true. However, there have been occasions in the past when the mere possibility of disallowance, although it might be unlikely in this House, has created a sufficient sense of uncertainty in the Government to want a disallowance motion resolved. The real difficulty is that there is no requirement for disallowance motions in this House to be resolved. They can be moved and can stay on the Notice Paper until the Parliament is prorogued. That is not a satisfactory way to deal with what is, after all, legislation; it is subordinate legislation but it is still legislation. The House has adopted a position where, even though an objection has been raised to that subordinate legislation, it does not necessarily have to be considered. We in this House are putting ourselves in an inferior situation to members of the other House. Members of the other House have a much more satisfactory way of dealing with subordinate legislation. Why would we, as members of the Assembly, the House of Government, put ourselves in an inferior position to members in the other place in the treatment of subordinate legislation? We can resolve this problem by giving subordinate legislation some priority for debate. Another way to resolve it would be to say if the disallowance motion is not dealt with by the conclusion of the sitting, the regulation is automatically disallowed. That would be a very powerful incentive for the matter to be dealt with.

Mr Bloffwitch: That is what occurs in the upper House.

Mr RIPPER: That is what occurs in the other place. However, it is a blunt weapon. A more modest proposal is the one put forward by the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee. The committee recommended a solution which is midway between the existing totally unsatisfactory situation in this place and the more draconian position which exists in the other place. It is a modest proposal. The Government could escape the consequences of the proposal by the Leader of the House simply moving to change the order of business. The Leader of the House might attract some criticism for changing the order of business; on the other hand if his negotiations with the Opposition were successful there might be no criticism at all. However, it would remind the Government and the Leader of the House that a disallowance motion had been moved and it would restore this House's rightful authority for the making of subordinate legislation.

I am disappointed that the Government has not accepted this proposal of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee. It is a proposal which shares a similarity with the other proposals of the committee. We have not often sought to tie the Government's hands with the proposals that we have recommended for changes to the standing orders. We have often adopted a solution which raises an issue and forces the Government to think about that issue without binding the Government. It is a moderate approach which the Government should be able to accept. If we were in government, we would be able to accept a proposal like this and I am disappointed that the Leader of the House cannot.

As I have been moving amendments, I have not had an opportunity to comment on a couple of other aspects of the minister's motion. The minister has proposed the deletion of a section of the proposed standing orders related to a question to be considered in the consideration in detail stage of debate on legislation. The committee recommended that a question be considered formally that the Bill as considered in detail be agreed to. The minister proposes to delete that. There is no objection from this side of the House to that proposal as it is an unnecessary aspect of the proposals which seems to have slipped through the committee's consideration.

The other issue raised by the Leader's motion is of more concern. The Government has chosen to exclude from this trial the committee's proposals for new provisions on pecuniary interests. An unsatisfactory situation exists currently with regard to pecuniary interests. Current rules provide that a member should not vote when that member has a pecuniary interest. A member's vote in such circumstances can be challenged and disallowed by a substantive motion immediately following the vote in question. That is the theory but the rules do not work in practice. If any element of public policy is involved - and there is always such an element - the member's vote is allowed.

Mr Speaker, if the member shares the interest with any significant group of people, on the basis of rulings made by your predecessors in previous years, the pecuniary interest will not prevent the member from voting. It is no surprise that in all the time I have been in Parliament I have never seen a person decline to vote because of a pecuniary interest. I do not believe there has been one occasion in the past decade - and I would be interested to know if there have been any occasions in the preceding decades - when these rules have worked in practice. Therefore, the present provisions look as though they do the job but in effect they do nothing. The committee believes the current position smacks of hypocrisy and suggests the

substitution of a requirement of members to declare their interests before the vote. The committee also believes that it is unnecessary to repeat declarations already on the register of pecuniary interests.

The committee also considered that members are in this place not only in their own right, but also as representatives of constituencies, and a constituency should not be denied that representation because the member has a pecuniary interest with regard to the matter in question. Those two concerns lay behind the committee's recommendations: Firstly, that the current system is hypocritical and does not work in practice; and, secondly, if a member were denied a vote, it might change the political balance in a way that denied constituents the influence which they properly anticipated at the election, just because their member had a pecuniary interest. The Government wants to maintain the old rules which while weaker in practice, look stronger in theory. The Opposition will not oppose the Government's motion to retain the old rules on pecuniary interest. However, I think that as a House we need to give some thought to this issue and come up with a more satisfactory arrangement. I hope this matter will not disappear when we move from the trial - assuming it is a success - to the full implementation of the standing orders. I say that with regard to all these changes. I hope that what we are about to agree to tonight will not necessarily be the final shape of the new standing orders.

We have left out government trading enterprises from an estimates committee scrutiny process, adopted a different arrangement on the Address-in-Reply, and are not about to give priority to disallowance motions, but I hope those decisions will not necessarily apply when the trial is over and we move to full implementation of the new standing orders. Opposition members have asked the Leader of the House for a number of commitments in this debate tonight. Did I understand him to say to the member for Midland that he would be prepared to hold a debate on proper rules for pecuniary interest?

Mr Barnett: I did not make a commitment that it will happen before Christmas, but said it would be late this year or early next year when we had a debate on pecuniary interest. I think it should be done by way of substantive motion. It is a serious matter that could affect people's careers if we got it wrong. We must be very careful about pecuniary interest. I am not against changes, I do not have a view on it, I am quite agnostic about it, but we must be careful.

Mr RIPPER: Does the Leader of the House suggest that it should be re-examined by the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee?

Mr Barnett: Yes, I am happy for that to happen. It is a good idea.

Mr RIPPER: I suggest that perhaps the committee should re-examine this matter with a view to making a subsequent report to the House. That concludes my general comments on the motion, and I now turn to the amendment I have moved. I think the proposal to give priority to disallowance motions properly reinforces the authority of this House over subordinate legislation and in practice it is a modest proposal with which no Government should have difficulty living.

MR WIESE (Wagin) [9.13 pm]: I rise not to support the motion or the amendment, but to comment, as is appropriate as Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, on some of the remarks made by the Leader of the House and the previous speaker. First, the Leader of the House spoke about the way some of these notices of disallowance are used and moved in the upper House. I understand what he is saying, but the reality is that the majority of motions of disallowance in the upper House are moved on behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation. A great number of them are moved as a protective notice to give the committee, and hence the Parliament, appropriate time in which to examine the issues raised in the particular set of regulations or local laws. They come very often before the committee. It gives the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, performing a role on behalf of both Houses of Parliament, an opportunity to look at the issues raised and brought before the committee. Certainly, it could be said that some notices of motion are brought forward for a political reason but the great majority are moved on behalf of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation. Many are moved wholly and solely because the particular set of rules or regulations or local laws infringe upon the issues within which the committee operates. They are ultra vires or unduly infringe on people's rights. Those are two of the major issues the committee examines. Predominantly, that is why they are examined. The few moved by private members in the upper House deal with similar issues but may come from a personal, party or political viewpoint, when the members disagree with the intent of the regulations. The House needs to be aware of that.

I now refer to issues raised by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. He raised a good issue; that is, this House, to all intents and purposes, has removed itself from any role in the scrutiny of delegated legislation. It has done so not by failing to address them in the order of business but by failing to provide an appropriate and practical set of procedures. It has ruled itself out of the scrutiny of any delegated legislation because it has no mechanism for bringing those notices to finality in this Parliament. That is fine if this House wants to totally remove itself from that role. I have a strong belief that it should not do so and that it should play a substantial role in the scrutiny of delegated legislation. However, until we change the standing orders in relation to how these notices of disallowance are dealt with, and make it a requirement that the motion must be dealt with or else the regulation is disallowed, as is the procedure in the upper House, very few notices of disallowance will be moved in this House because effectively they cannot be brought to fruition.

The Government may not wish to deal with them. Many issues dealt with by the committee and raised in the scrutiny and disallowance debates should be looked at by this Parliament, debated and dealt with. In my opinion if this House were to address some of these issues, some of the underlying problems in the way delegated legislation is drawn up and presented to the Parliament by bureaucracies would be abolished. They would not be presented if they were subject to scrutiny in this House, which is the House in which the Government governs. If those issues were dealt with in this House, the bureaucracies would make sure they did not subject themselves to the scrutiny they get in the upper House. Although I cannot support what is being proposed in this amendment -

Ms MacTiernan: Why not?

Mr WIESE: Because it does not address the issues. It raises them but it does not address them by proposing a remedy. We must change the procedures relating to the issues in this House. Notices of disallowance are not given lightly but are done very responsibly. The committee deals with them on behalf of both Houses of Parliament, but effectively this House has ruled itself out of any scrutiny because it does not have an effective procedure for dealing with them.

MS MacTIERNAN (Armadale) [9.20 pm]: I will make a brief comment on this question of the failure of Parliament to deal effectively with subordinate legislation. The Standing Orders and Procedure Committee's proposal would have ensured that any piece of delegated legislation that a member felt needed to be brought to the public's attention and subjected to proper parliamentary debate would be dealt with in that way. One of my very real concerns is that time and again when the Government introduces legislation in which a very substantial proportion of its control is given over to regulation the concerned members of the public are told that they should not worry because the regulations will be subject to parliamentary scrutiny. They are told that, while the Government is removing much from the primary legislation and putting it in regulations, it has mechanisms in place to deal with that situation. Unfortunately, as has been discussed here tonight, that is a mirage. We know that time and again members in this place move disallowance motions which sit on the Notice Paper and which are never debated. The minister who has gazetted the regulations is never called before the Parliament to explain or defend his decision to implement these laws. The Opposition is never given an opportunity to -

Mr Wiese: They can do it in private members' time.

Ms MacTIERNAN: With all the competing demands that we have in limited private members' time we do not necessarily have the opportunity to debate those issues fully. Often when such issues are brought forward in private members' time, government backbenchers who do not normally speak become very vocal and prevent the issues being brought to some resolution and a vote being taken.

I understand the Government's point that it would not want an open-ended situation whereby opposition members could completely dominate the Government's agenda by introducing disallowance motion after disallowance motion. The Opposition agrees that a limit should apply to the duration of debates on such matters before they are finally brought to a vote. Members on this side would not advocate a provision such as that which applies in the upper House, whereby if the motion is not dealt with it is automatically disallowed. However, it is very important that we have the opportunity to raise those issues and a mechanism that imposes on the Government the burden of defending these regulations.

I return to my original point: Often when introducing primary legislation that contains extensive regulatory powers the Government assures the public that, notwithstanding the fact that these measures are not in the primary legislation, there will be subsequent opportunities to review the regulations in the Parliament. We know that to a very large extent that is a farce and that disallowance motions are usually not brought to a conclusion and simply drop off the Notice Paper.

It is disappointing that the Government has rejected the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee's recommendation. It was a modest proposal and one that will become increasingly important as more and more government power is exercised through regulations rather than through primary legislation.

MR BARNETT (Cottesloe - Leader of the House) [9.25 pm]: I have listened with interest to the points raised and accept the general view that ultimately this Parliament is responsible for delegated subsidiary legislation and that an element of accountability can be brought to bear. However, I will provide some examples of what has happened. During the 1997-98 session, the Opposition moved disallowance motions on five occasions. Those motions related to weights and measures regulations, industrial relations superannuation regulations, health amendment regulations, Dampier Port Authority amendment regulations and the proposed regulations to the metropolitan region scheme. Not one of those motions was brought on for debate during private members' time that year. Members can talk about restricted time, but the fact remains that five disallowance motions were moved but not one was brought forward for debate during private members' time.

One bizarre example relates to a motion for disallowance of the metropolitan region scheme moved by the member for Bassendean in June 1998. It was not brought forward for debate during that session even though the upper House had disallowed the amendment. The member for Bassendean said he wanted to debate the issues because they were important to his electorate. He reinstated the motion in August last year and again it was not brought on for debate during the 1998-99 session. Finally, it fell off the Notice Paper when Parliament was prorogued. I do not know the member's motive. He was moving a disallowance motion dealing with an issue that had already been dealt with in the upper House. He reinstated it and still did not deal with it. It might have been good politics in his electorate, but clearly neither he nor the Opposition was committed to dealing with it.

Mr Ripper: You would know from your time in opposition that your members raise dozens of issues every week and there is a competition to see which issue can get up, because all of them cannot.

Mr BARNETT: The member for Bassendean raised an important issue to his constituents - good luck to him - but with no intention of debating it.

Mr Brown: It is a very important issue.

Mr BARNETT: I am not saying it is not. However, using the mechanism of disallowance with no intent to pursue it -

Mr Brown: There is an intent to pursue it.

Mr BARNETT: It has already been dealt with in the upper House.

Mr Brown: I want it debated in this House.

Mr BARNETT: The member has had two years in which to deal with it. It is up to the Opposition to determine which issues it wants to debate during private members' time.

Mr Brown: That is correct.

Mr BARNETT: It is not up to me to determine what the Opposition wants to debate.

The member for Wagin, as chairman of the committee, made the point that a committee may look at delegated legislation, dutifully consider the pros and cons and make a recommendation. I do not give any commitment at this stage, but I see merit in what he says. Perhaps this is another matter that the committee should re-examine. A process involving a motion for disallowance being moved by any member from the floor of the Chamber does not have a great deal of credibility, and I would not agree to giving such a motion priority. However, if a motion for disallowance is referred to the committee and, after dutifully examining it, the committee makes a recommendation, then perhaps there is a case for bringing it on for debate. I have not thought through all the implications of that, but perhaps the committee can reconsider it. It is not an unreasonable proposition. To have motions for disallowance moved by members on issues such as that raised by the member for Bassendean, which he says is important to his electorate, may well be appropriate, but members should not expect the Government to give up time to deal with them. If a proper committee process is followed and the motion is brought back as a recommendation of the chairman of the committee, perhaps it could be given some priority.

Amendment put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (16)

Mr Brown
Mr Carpenter
Dr Edwards
Mr Graham

Mr Grill
Mr Kobelke
Ms MacTiernan
Mr Marlborough

Mr McGinty
Mr McGowan
Ms McHale
Mr Riebeling

Mr Ripper
Mrs Roberts
Ms Warnock
Mr Cunningham (*Teller*)

Noes (29)

Mr Ainsworth
Mr Baker
Mr Barnett
Mr Bloffwitch
Mr Board
Mr Bradshaw
Dr Constable
Mr Court

Mr Day
Mrs Edwardes
Dr Hames
Mrs Hodson-Thomas
Mrs Holmes
Mr House
Mr Johnson

Mr Kierath
Mr Marshall
Mr Masters
Mr McNee
Mr Minson
Mr Nicholls
Mr Omodei

Mr Shave
Mr Sweetman
Mr Tubby
Dr Turnbull
Mrs van de Klashorst
Mr Wiese
Mr Osborne (*Teller*)

Pairs

Mr Thomas
Dr Gallop
Ms Anwyl

Mr Cowan
Mr Prince
Mrs Parker

Amendment thus negatived.

Motion Resumed

Question put and passed.

Statement by Speaker

THE SPEAKER (Mr Strickland): The Procedure and Privileges Committee will examine the transcripts and I am sure there is room to move and bring forward a report. Now that the House has adopted the trial, a volume containing the trial standing orders will be delivered to each member's desk in the Chamber, and tomorrow morning the existing standing orders volume will be removed. The new volume contains green forms at the front which show the motions and procedure for each stage of a Bill under the changed arrangements. Those forms detail what members and the presiding officer are required to say and do at each stage and I encourage members to become familiar with those. In addition, there are some one-page forms available at the back of the Chamber for members presenting petitions, to enable a smooth transition to the new procedure. Documentation has been produced to enable those members who are on committees to become aware of changes in the rules for committees, and that will be made available to them through the committee staff.

The trial will require some transitional arrangements. For example, most petitions will not meet all the requirements of the trial standing orders, but I will ensure that for the period of the trial, petitions can be presented if they would have been admissible under the previous standing orders. Another example is the reference in existing sessional orders to suspension of Standing Order No 35 in relation to the Address-in-Reply. This will be taken to refer to trial Standing Order No 59 so far as that is necessary. Members of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee will be taken to comprise the membership of the Procedure and Privileges Committee, and members of the Public Accounts and Expenditure Review Committee will be taken to comprise the membership of the Public Accounts Committee.

The Notice Paper will change to reflect the new rules. For instance, the category of notices of motion for Bills will not appear, as the Bills will be listed either as government business notices of motion or as private members' business notices of motion. Another example is that when a committee has sought a ministerial response to recommendations, the date by which that response is due will appear on the Notice Paper.

As usual, I will ensure that the rules are applied to reflect the will of the House and issue directions or make rulings accordingly. In addition to the modest reforms they contain, the trial standing orders are intended to make our rules clearer and to enunciate many existing practices of the House. At the end of October, the Procedure and Privileges Committee will distribute a questionnaire to elicit members' views on the trial, prior to reporting again to the House in November. I expect that report to recommend whether the trial standing orders should be adopted on a permanent basis, and if so, what changes should be made to them.

MIDLAND REDEVELOPMENT BILL 1999

Report

Report of Committee adopted.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr Kierath (Minister for Planning), and transmitted to the Council.

PRISONS AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Committee

Resumed from 1 July. The Deputy Chairman of Committees (Mrs Holmes) in the Chair; Mrs van de Klashorst (Parliamentary Secretary) in charge of the Bill.

Progress was reported after new clause 8 had been agreed to.

Clause 8: Section 38 amended -

Mr RIEBELING: This proposed subsection deals with the medical care and treatment of prisoners and the structure that will be in place in the new privatised prison system if the legislation goes through. How will the amendments in this proposed subsection improve the situation in the current government prison system?

Mrs van de KLASHORST: The effect of this proposed subsection is to change the personal duty that a medical officer previously had to each prisoner in a nominated prison to a responsibility that must be specified in the terms of the appointment or engagement. It will now be the responsibility of the chief executive officer to delegate to the nominated medical officer responsibility for the health care of individual prisoners.

Mr RIEBELING: Will it no longer be the responsibility of the medical officer but be the responsibility of the chief executive officer, who will delegate it to a medical professional?

Mrs van de Klashorst: Yes.

Mr RIEBELING: How will that improve the current system? Is the Government's desire to have individual contracts for medical staff such that it must be the responsibility of the chief executive officer rather than the medical officer? Will these medical officers be doctors?

Mrs van de Klashorst: Yes.

Mr RIEBELING: I presume that doctors have a responsibility that cannot be delegated. Is there not a charter among doctors? I do not know how doctors can delegate their responsibility for the medical care of patients, who in this case will be prisoners. Therefore, the doctors will have a primary responsibility to the patients, rather than be a stepping stone down.

Mrs van de KLASHORST: That is right. The chief executive officer will have overall responsibility for employing the right people who are properly qualified, but the doctors will have responsibility for the individual patients. The effect of this proposed subsection is to transfer responsibility for medical care and treatment of prisoners from a nominated medical officer to the CEO. The CEO will nominate the medical officer, which is how he or she will become responsible.

Mr RIEBELING: With regard to the way prisoners are treated, who will have responsibility for ensuring that proper checks are made of people's conditions? When I was the shadow spokesperson for Justice, prisoners made numerous complaints to me that their medical care had been inappropriate or insufficient. Unfortunately, some of those allegations led to the death of patients, and the Deaths in Custody Watch Committee was very active in pointing out when lack of appropriate medical care had led to the death of a number of prisoners. In the case of a death, would the responsibility lie with the medical officer or the chief executive officer? If a prisoner believed that his medical treatment was inappropriate, would his chain of complaint be through the wardens' system or through the doctors' system? Under the old system, the doctors had some degree of independence with regard to complaints about treatment in prisons. Would the degree of freedom that the doctors had under the old system be retained under this system?

Mrs van de KLASHORST: The present Prisons Act leaves a gap, because only one doctor is available to the prisoners in a prison. This proposed subsection will cover that gap by giving the CEO the statutory authority to appoint doctors as needed, rather than individual doctors for individual prisons, so the CEO will be responsible for the overall prison service. With regard to who would be responsible if something untoward took place, the CEO would ask for an investigation, and the final responsibility would lie with the CEO as being statutorily responsible for the prison service. We have yet to deal with a proposed amendment to clause 4 to insert a definition of "medical practitioner", who will be a person who is registered as a medical practitioner under the Medical Act 1894 and who has a current entitlement to practice under that Act. That will be the person who the chief executive officer can appoint for the whole service and for whom he will be responsible.

Mr RIEBELING: I understand that. Under the current system, if a prisoner has a complaint, one of the avenues is through the doctor.

Mrs van de KLASHORST: The doctor has a duty as a medical practitioner, but the final accountability lies with the CEO. The doctor has a duty of care, as is the case when anyone goes to a doctor.

Mr RIEBELING: I may be wrong in my presumption; however, under the current system, if a prisoner has a complaint, one avenue open to that person is through the doctor in relation to injuries and how they have been sustained, for instance.

Mrs van de Klashorst: The prisoners' complaints are to the accountable officer, who in all cases is the chief executive officer.

Mr RIEBELING: Is there an obligation for doctors to report maltreatment and the like?

Mrs van de Klashorst: No.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 9 put and passed.

Clause 10 put and negatived.

Clauses 11 and 12 put and passed.

Clause 13: Section 45 amended -

Dr TURNBULL: I have a couple of questions about the actions of prison medical officers and other types of visitors in prisons. This is the only clause in which I can ask these questions. If the prison medical officers are of the opinion that they should visit a certain prisoner, must they seek to do so under the direction of the chief executive officer or can they make a decision on their judgment that they will visit that prisoner? Must they be directed by someone with delegation from the chief executive officer?

Mrs van de KLASHORST: The medical practitioner will be engaged to provide the service.

Dr Turnbull: In other words, he can decide to visit one of the prisoners.

Mrs van de KLASHORST: It would be up to the medical and professional judgment of the medical practitioner, once the service had been organised and planned.

Dr TURNBULL: I now refer to other types of visitors of prisoners. We are discussing private prisons operated by an organisation which is contracted to provide the service of caring for prisoners. In such a set-up, are the requirements of the current prisoner management system relating to official visitors, such as chaplains, to be included in the new management by private organisations to allow access for those types of visitors to prisoners?

Mrs van de KLASHORST: There are two questions: One is about chaplains who visit; the other is about other prison visitors. The arrangement will continue as it is in the present system.

Dr Turnbull: Will the official visitors and chaplains have access to the private prison in the same way as currently happens.

Mrs van de KLASHORST: Yes.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 14 to 17 put and passed.

New clause 18 -

Mrs van de KLASHORST: I move -

Page 30, after line 11 - To insert the following clause -

18. Part XA inserted

After section 109 the following Part is inserted -

"

Part XA - Inspector of Custodial Services

Division 1 - Office of Inspector of Custodial Services

109A. Creation and purpose of office of Inspector

An office of Inspector of Custodial Services is hereby created for the purpose of performing the functions of the Inspector under this Act or any other law.

109B. Appointment of Inspector

- (1) The Governor shall appoint an appropriately qualified Inspector.
- (2) The *Public Sector Management Act 1994* does not apply to or in relation to the appointment of the Inspector and the Inspector is not subject to that Act.

- (3) Subject to this Act, the Inspector holds office for such term of not more than 7 years as is specified in the appointment and is eligible for re-appointment for one or more terms each of not more than 7 years.
- (4) No person who is or has been within the preceding 3 years a member of the Parliament of the Commonwealth or any State shall be appointed as Inspector or acting Inspector.

109C. Conditions of appointment

- (1) The Inspector -
 - (a) shall be paid salary and allowances at such rates per annum as are determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal established by the *Salaries and Allowances Act 1975*; and
 - (b) has such leave and other entitlements as are determined by the Governor and which cannot be reduced during a term of appointment.
- (2) The salary and allowances payable to the Inspector are to be charged to the Consolidated Fund and this subsection appropriates the Consolidated Fund accordingly.

109D. Oath

- (1) Before performing the functions of his or her office the Inspector shall take an oath or affirmation that he or she will faithfully and impartially perform the duties of the office, and that he or she will not, except in accordance with this Act, divulge any information received by him or her under this Act or any other law.
- (2) The oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Governor.

109E. Removal of Inspector from office

- (1) The Governor may remove the Inspector from office -
 - (a) for -
 - (i) misbehaviour or incompetence; or
 - (ii) physical or mental incapacity, other than temporary illness, impairing the performance of the Inspector's functions;
 - or
 - (b) if the Inspector becomes a bankrupt or applies to take the benefit of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors, compounds with his or her creditors or makes an assignment of salary for their benefit.
- (2) In subsection (1)(a)(i) "**misbehaviour**" includes conduct that renders the Inspector unfit to hold office as Inspector even though the conduct does not relate to any function of the office.

109F. Acting appointments

- (1) The Governor may appoint a person to act in the office of the Inspector -
 - (a) during a vacancy in the office; or
 - (b) during any period or during all periods when the person holding or appointed to act in that office is absent from duty or is for any other reason unable to perform the functions of the office.
- (2) If the Governor has not appointed a person under subsection (1) the Inspector may appoint a person to act in the office of the Inspector in the circumstances referred to in subsection (1)(b) -
 - (a) for not more than 4 weeks at a time; and
 - (b) for not more than 6 weeks in a 12 month period.
- (3) If the Inspector appoints a person under subsection (2) and the Governor later appoints a person under subsection (1) whose term of the appointment is to begin before the term of the Inspector's appointee has ended, the appointment of the Inspector has no effect on and from the day when the term of the Governor's appointee begins.

- (4) An appointment under subsection (1) or (2) may be made at any time and may be expressed to have effect only in the circumstances specified in the instrument of appointment.
- (5) A person who is acting in the office of Inspector shall perform all the functions of the office of Inspector under this or any other Act and is subject to all relevant provisions of this Act and any other law applying to the Inspector.
- (6) The validity of anything done by or in relation to a person purporting to act in the office of Inspector under an appointment made under subsection (1) or (2) shall not be called in question on the ground that the occasion for the appointment had not arisen, that there is a defect or irregularity in the appointment, that the appointment had ceased to have effect or that the occasion for the person to act had not arisen or had ceased.

109G. Portability of superannuation and other entitlements

- (1) If a public service officer is appointed to the office of Inspector he or she is entitled to retain all existing and accruing rights, including those as to superannuation, as if his or her service in that office were a continuation of his or her service as a public service officer.
- (2) If a person ceases to hold the office of Inspector and becomes a public service officer his or her service in that office shall be regarded as service in the Public Service for the purposes of determining his or her rights, including those as to superannuation, as a public service officer.
- (3) If -
 - (a) immediately before his or her appointment the Inspector occupied an office under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*; and
 - (b) his or her term of office as Inspector expires by effluxion of time and he or she is not reappointed,
 that person is entitled to be appointed to an office under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* that is not lower in status than the office which he or she occupied immediately before the appointment to the office of Inspector.
- (4) In this section -
"public service officer" has the definition it has in the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

109H. Staff

- (1) The staff necessary for the performance of the Inspector's functions shall be appointed under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.
- (2) A person may be appointed or engaged for the purpose of giving expert advice or other assistance in relation to the performance of the Inspector's functions.
- (3) The Inspector may by arrangement with the relevant employer make use, either fulltime or parttime, of the services of any officer or employee -
 - (a) in the Public Service;
 - (b) in a State agency or instrumentality; or
 - (c) otherwise in the service of the Crown in right of the State.
- (4) The Inspector may by arrangement with -
 - (a) a department of the Public Service; or
 - (b) a State agency or instrumentality,
 make use of any facilities of the department, agency or instrumentality.
- (5) An arrangement under subsection (3) or (4) is to be made on such terms as are agreed to by the parties.

Division 2 - Functions and powers of Inspector

109I. Functions of Inspector

- (1) The Inspector shall inspect each prison at least once every 3 years and prepare an inspection report on his or her findings.

- (2) An inspection report may contain such advice or recommendations as the Inspector considers appropriate in relation to the findings.
- (3) The Inspector may -
 - (a) inspect a prison at any time and on any number of occasions between the inspections of the prison referred to in subsection (1); or
 - (b) review a prison service at any time, including any aspect of a prison service.
- (4) The Inspector may, at any time -
 - (a) report to the Minister on any matter relating to an inspection of a prison or a review of a prison service and give advice or make recommendations in relation to the matter; or
 - (b) deliver to the Minister or any other person having an interest in the subject matter of the document -
 - (i) a draft inspection report; or
 - (ii) a report prepared by the Inspector concerning an inspection or review under subsection (3).
- (5) The Inspector shall ensure that the performance of a function of the Inspector under this Act or any other law is not likely to delay, interfere with or duplicate -
 - (a) a pending inquiry under section 9;
 - (b) a pending investigation, or the taking of further action (as defined in section 17 of the *Anti-Corruption Commission Act 1988*), by the Anti-Corruption Commission under that Act; or
 - (c) a pending investigation by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations under the *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971*.
- (6) The Inspector shall not deal with a complaint or grievance concerning an individual other than to advise the complainant that the Inspector's functions do not relate to the matter or, if appropriate, to refer the matter to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations.

109J. Powers of the Inspector

- (1) The Inspector has power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of the functions of the Inspector under this Act or any other law.
- (2) It is not necessary for any person to be given notice of the Inspector's intention to perform a function of the Inspector under this Act or any other law.

109K. Inspector may have access to prisons and certain persons, vehicles and documents

- (1) The Inspector and any person authorized by the Inspector may, at any time, (with any assistants and equipment that the Inspector or authorized person thinks are necessary) have free and unfettered access to a prison, person, vehicle or document referred to in subsection (2) for the purpose of performing the Inspector's functions under this Act.
- (2) A person referred to in subsection (1) may have access to -
 - (a) a prison or any part of a prison;
 - (b) a prisoner in a prison;
 - (c) a person whose work is concerned with a prison;
 - (d) a vehicle used to transport prisoners;
 - (e) a prisoner in such a vehicle;
 - (f) a person whose work is concerned with such a vehicle; and
 - (g) all documents in the possession of -
 - (i) the Department in relation to a prison or a prison service; and

- (ii) a contractor or a subcontractor in relation to a prison or a prison service that is a subject of a contract.
- (3) The Inspector may authorize a person for the purposes of subsection (1).
- (4) An authorization must be in writing and may be made subject to such conditions and limitations specified in the authorization as the Inspector thinks fit.
- (5) A person must not hinder or resist a person referred to in subsection (1) when the person is exercising or attempting to exercise a power under that subsection.
Penalty: \$20 000.
- (6) Nothing in this section limits any entitlement that a person, under a law, has to have access to a place, vehicle, person or document referred to in subsection (2).

109L. Directions

- (1) Except as provided in this section, the Inspector is not subject to direction by the Minister or any other person in the performance of the Inspector's functions.
- (2) The Minister may direct the Inspector to inspect a prison or to review a prison service or an aspect of a prison service and report on a specified matter of significance.
- (3) The Minister may, after consultation with the Inspector, issue to the Inspector directions as to the performance of any of the Inspector's functions but a direction cannot be issued in respect of a particular case.
- (4) The Inspector must comply with a direction under subsection (2) or (3) unless, in the Inspector's opinion, there are exceptional circumstances for not complying.
- (5) If the Inspector refuses to comply with a direction under subsection (2) or (3) he or she must prepare written reasons for the failure to comply and cause the reasons to be laid before each House of Parliament within 14 sitting days of that House after the refusal.
- (6) Every direction shall be in writing and the text of the direction shall be included in the annual report of the Inspector under section 109N(2)(d).

109M. Minister to have access to information

- (1) Subject to this section the Minister is entitled -
 - (a) to have information in the possession of the Inspector; and
 - (b) where the information is in or on a document, to have, and make and retain copies of, that document.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) the Minister may -
 - (a) request the Inspector to furnish information to the Minister;
 - (b) request the Inspector to give the Minister access to information;
 - (c) for the purposes of paragraph (b) make use of the Inspector's staff to obtain the information and furnish it to the Minister.
- (3) The Inspector must comply with a request under subsection (2) and make his or her staff and facilities available to the Minister for the purposes of subsection (2)(c) unless, in the Inspector's opinion, it would not be in the public interest to provide the information.
- (4) If the Inspector refuses to comply with a request under subsection (2) he or she must prepare written reasons for the failure to comply and cause the reasons to be laid before each House of Parliament within 14 sitting days of that House after the refusal.
- (5) In this section -
"document" includes any tape, disc or other device or medium on which information is recorded or stored;

"information" means information specified, or of a description specified, by the Minister that related to the functions of the Inspector.

109N. Reporting

- (1) The Inspector shall, as soon as is practicable in each year but not later than 30 September, deliver copies of the documents referred to in subsection (2) -
 - (a) to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the President of the Legislative Council who shall keep the documents in safe custody; and
 - (b) to the Minister, who may prepare a response to the documents.
- (2) The documents are -
 - (a) each inspection report prepared by the Inspector as a result of inspecting a prison in the period of 12 months ending on the preceding 30 June;
 - (b) a list of -
 - (i) the prisons that have been inspected since the preceding 30 June and the day on which the list was prepared; and
 - (ii) the prisons that are proposed to be inspected in the period up to the next 30 June;
 - (c) any report prepared by the Inspector concerning an inspection or review under section 109I(3) that the Inspector considers appropriate to be laid before the Houses of Parliament; and
 - (d) a report on the administration of the Inspector's functions for the period of 12 months ending on the preceding 30 June.
- (3) Nothing in this section prevents a document from being delivered under subsection (1) at a different time from another document.
- (4) The Speaker and the President shall lay each document delivered under subsection (1)(a) before their respective Houses of Parliament not before 30 days after the document is delivered under subsection (1)(a) but as soon as practicable after the expiration of the 30 day period.
- (5) If neither House of Parliament is sitting on the day when the 30 day period referred to in subsection (4) expires, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the Clerk of the Legislative Council shall jointly ensure that the document is published as soon as practicable in a prescribed manner.
- (6) The inspector shall not, in a document referred to in subsection (2) disclose information or make a statement setting out opinions that are, either expressly or impliedly, critical of the Department or a contractor or any person unless the Inspector has complied with subsection (7) in relation to the matter.
- (7) Where the Inspector proposes to disclose information or make a statement setting out opinions referred to in subsection (6) he or she shall, before doing so, afford -
 - (a) if the opinions relate to the Department, the chief executive officer;
 - (b) if the opinions relate to a contractor or other person, the contractor or person,

The opportunity to make submissions, either orally or in writing, in relation to the matter.

Division 3 - Other matters relating to the Inspector

109O. Consultation

- (1) The Inspector may consult the Anti-Corruption Commission, the Director of Public Prosecutions or the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations concerning the performance of a function of the Inspector under this Act or any other law.
- (2) Information obtained by the Inspector or the Inspector's staff in the course of, or for the purpose of, the performance of a function of the Inspector under this

Act or any other law may be disclosed for the purposes of a consultation under subsection (1).

109P. Disclosure of certain information

A person who is the Inspector or a member of the Inspector's staff authorized for the purposes of this section by the Inspector may disclose information obtained by the Inspector or the Inspector's staff in the course of, or for the purpose of, the performance of a function of the Inspector under this Act or any other law if the information -

- (a) is disclosed to a person who is -
 - (i) a member of the Anti-Corruption Commission; or
 - (ii) an officer or a seconded officer of the Anti-Corruption Commission authorized for the purposes of this subparagraph by the Anti-Corruption Commission,
 and concerns a matter that is relevant to the functions of the Anti-Corruption Commission;
- (b) is disclosed to a person who is -
 - (i) the Director of Public Prosecutions;
 - (ii) the Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions; or
 - (iii) a member of the staff of the Director of Public Prosecutions authorized for the purposes of this subparagraph by the Director of Public Prosecutions or the Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions,

and concerns a matter that is relevant to the functions of either the Anti-Corruption Commission or the Director of Public Prosecutions; or

- (c) is disclosed to a person who is -
 - (i) the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations;
 - (ii) the Deputy Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations; or
 - (iii) an officer of the Parliamentary Commissioner authorized for the purposes of this subparagraph by the Parliamentary Commissioner or the Deputy Parliamentary Commissioner,

and concerns a matter that is relevant to the functions of the Parliamentary Commissioner.

109Q. Confidentiality

- (1) Information obtained by the Inspector or the Inspector's staff in the course of, or for the purpose of, performing a function under this Act or any other law, shall not be disclosed, except -
 - (a) for the purposes of the performance of a function of the Inspector under this Act or any other law;
 - (b) for the purposes of any proceedings for perjury or for an offence under this Act; or
 - (c) as authorized by section 109O or 109P.
- (2) The Inspector may in writing direct the person to whom a document is sent by the Inspector not to disclose to any other person any information contained in the document except for the purposes of the performance of a function of the Inspector to which the document relates, and a person to whom such a direction is given shall comply with the direction.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not prevent the Inspector from disclosing information, or making a statement, to any person or to the public or a section of the public with respect to the performance of a function of the Inspector if, in the Inspector's opinion, it is in the interests of the Department or a contractor or of any person, or is otherwise in the public interest, to disclose the information or to make the statement.

- (4) The Inspector shall not disclose information or make a statement under subsection (3) with respect to a particular matter where the disclosure of that information, or the making of that statement, is likely to interfere with the performance of a function of the Inspector in relation to that or any other matter.
- (5) The Inspector shall not, in disclosing information or making a statement under subsection (3) with respect to a particular matter set out opinions that are, either expressly or impliedly, critical of the Department or a contractor or any person unless the Inspector has complied with subsection (6) in relation to the matter.
- (6) Where the Inspector proposes to disclose information or make a statement setting out opinions referred to in subsection (5) he or she shall, before doing so, afford -
 - (a) if the opinions relate to the Department, the chief executive officer;
 - (b) if the opinions relate to a contractor or other person, the contractor or person,the opportunity to make submissions, either orally or in writing, in relation to the matter.
- (7) A person shall not disclose information contrary to the provisions of this section.

Penalty: \$6 000 and imprisonment for 2 years.

109R. Documents sent to or by the Inspector not admissible

Any document that is sent to the Inspector or the Inspector's staff or by the Inspector or the Inspector's staff -

- (a) in the course of, or for the purposes of, the performance of a function of the Inspector under this Act or any other law; and
- (b) that was prepared specifically for the purposes of the performance of the function,

is privileged and is not admissible in evidence in any proceedings other than proceedings for perjury or for an offence under this Act alleged to have been committed in relation to the performance of a function of the Inspector.

109S. Protection for proceedings in Cabinet

- (1) A person shall not be required or authorized by virtue of this Act -
 - (a) to furnish any information or answer any question relating to proceedings of Cabinet or of any committee of Cabinet; or
 - (b) to produce or inspect so much of any document as relates to any such proceedings.
- (2) For the purposes of this section a certificate issued by the Director General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, with the approval of the Premier of the State, certifying that any information or question, or any document or part of a document, relates to any such proceedings as are referred to in subsection (1) is conclusive of the fact so certified.

109T. Hindering and other offences in relation to Inspector

A person shall not -

- (a) without reasonable excuse hinder, resist or threaten the Inspector or any person assisting the Inspector in the performance of the Inspector's functions under this Act or any other law;
- (b) make a statement that the person knows to be false or misleading to the Inspector or a person assisting the Inspector in the performance of the Inspector's functions under this Act or any other law; or
- (c) deliberately mislead or attempt to mislead the Inspector or a person assisting the Inspector in the performance of the Inspector's functions under this Act or any other law.

Penalty: \$6 000 or imprisonment for 12 months or both.

109U. Victimization

- (1) A person shall not -
 - (a) prejudice, or threaten to prejudice, the safety or career of; or
 - (b) intimidate or harass, or threaten to intimidate or harass; or
 - (c) do any act that is, or is likely to be, to the detriment of, another person because the other person -
 - (d) has provided, is providing or will or may in the future provide information to the Inspector or any person assisting the Inspector in the performance of the Inspector's functions under this Act or any other law; or
 - (e) has performed a function of the Inspector or any person assisting the Inspector under this Act or any other law in relation to the other person or is performing, or will or may in the future perform, any such function.

Penalty: \$8 000 or imprisonment for 2 years.
- (2) A person who attempts to commit an offence under subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable to the penalty set out in subsection (1).
- (3) A person who -
 - (a) intends that an offence under subsection (1) be committed; and
 - (b) incites another person to commit the offence,

commits an offence and is liable to the penalty set out in subsection (1). "

Mr BROWN: I take it that we are dealing with the amendment to insert new part XA following existing section 109 of the Act.

Point of Order

Mr BROWN: I take a point of order in relation to this amendment. I seek a ruling on whether it is appropriately before the Parliament. I do that by reference to Standing Order No 267 which states -

Any amendment may be made to a clause, provided the same be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill, or pursuant to any instruction, and be otherwise in conformity with Standing Orders of the House; but if any amendment shall not be within the title of the Bill, the Committee shall extend the title accordingly, and report the same specially to the House.

There are a number of separate points relating to whether this amendment is appropriately before the House, which I will deal with individually. The first matter relates to the opening words of the standing order which read -

Any amendment may be made to a clause . . .

This proposed amendment is not to a clause. The amendment seeks to include a new clause, indeed a new division. On a strict reading of the words, the proposed new clause does not seek to amend the clause and is therefore inappropriate. There is a proviso in the standing order which reads -

. . . provided the same be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill . . .

Therefore, to move an amendment there must be a clause and the amendment then must be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill. There is no clause and therefore one cannot overcome that by reference to the words that appear later in the standing order. In the event that I am wrong on that, I refer to the second set of words in the standing order. I read them before and I emphasise the point. The words "provided the same be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill" mean that under the standing orders one cannot simply move an amendment that is not subject to the relevant provisions of the Bill. I understand that those words have been interpreted by the Parliament to mean that if an amendment to a Bill is moved, that amendment must either amend the provisions of the Bill before the Parliament or seek to amend provisions of the Act that the Bill is seeking to amend. This proposed new clause does neither of those two things. This is a brand new clause from left field. This clause does not replicate a clause in the existing Act nor does it replicate a clause in the Bill. It is entirely new, entirely fresh and has never been before the Parliament previously. It was not even foreshadowed in the second reading speech.

I ask you, Madam Chair, to rule on that as this is a significant issue on the operation of the standing orders of the Parliament. If this clause is allowed to stand, it will be open to members to move any amendments to any Bill at any time, whether or not they relate to the Bill or the Act, provided one can show a semblance of relationship between that amendment - that is, the new clause - and the Bill before the Parliament. That is a different interpretation from the interpretation used previously to accept amendments before the House. If that is to be the interpretation, I accept, if you rule that way, Madam Chair, that that will be the interpretation that the House will then use. However, I foreshadow that if that is the ruling, some members -

particularly members on this side of the House - will seek to use that ruling in future should anyone seek to narrow the nature of the amendments that can be moved during the committee stage of a Bill. I raise the point of order and I seek your ruling in detail on that point of order as it is a significant point.

Mrs van de KLASHORST: I bring to the attention of the Chair the actual title of the Bill which reads -

An Act to amend the *Prisons Act 1981* to provide for prison services to be provided under contracts and for related matters and to amend various other Acts as a consequence.

This is a related matter to the Bill before the House because the proposed introduction of the Inspector of Custodial Services is an integral part of the administrative arrangements for the contractual management of prisons. Therefore, the words "related matters" and the fact that this is to facilitate an administrative arrangement are the reasons for introducing this new clause.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (Mrs Holmes): Standing order 267 reads -

Any amendment may be made to a clause . . .

This is a new clause to be inserted. Therefore, the point of order is irrelevant. Secondly, the new clause is relevant to the subject matter of the Bill which is prisons. Thirdly, it comes within the long title of the Bill which is proposed to be amended to establish the Office of Inspector of Custodial Services. I rule that there is no point of order.

Committee Resumed

Progress reported and leave granted to sit again.

House adjourned at 10.07 pm

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions and answers are as supplied to Hansard.

PARKWAY BUSHLAND

3. Dr EDWARDS to the Premier:

- (1) Is the Premier aware that in the absence of a workable policy to retain locally significant bushland, the only site to be secured in four years has been Shenton Park bushland in the Premier's own electorate?
- (2) Is the Premier aware that Parkway bushland that was due to be demolished on Monday 29 March 1999 was wanted by the community and council as locally significant bushland well before it was sold to Homeswest?
- (3) Is the Premier aware that Parkway bushland should be saved in its entirety for the following reasons-
 - (a) it forms a corridor for a breeding colony of bandicoots;
 - (b) it is only 7 hectares; and
 - (c) it is opposite a school that encourages environmental awareness by the children?
- (4) Why can it not be saved?
- (5) When will a workable strategy to protect locally significant bush land be developed?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) I am aware of issues associated with the protection of locally significant bushland. The Government's *Urban Bushland Strategy*, released in 1995, stressed the importance of the conservation of local bushland and identified this as the responsibility of local government. A number of local authorities have since developed or are developing local bushland strategies, to provide for the protection of bushland with high conservation significance at the local level. The Urban Bushland Strategy recognises the State Government as being primarily responsible for protecting bushland of regional significance. As you will be aware the Government's main focus in urban bushland conservation has been on the development of Perth's Bushplan, which was released late last year with a commitment that the Government will spend \$100 million over 10 years on its implementation. Perth's Bushplan is the most comprehensive review of the conservation values of bushland undertaken in any capital city in Australia and will in its final form provide a long term framework for conservation in the Perth area.
- (2)-(3) I am generally aware that Parkway bushland is wanted by the community and council as locally significant bushland, on the basis of its local environmental and educational values.
- (4) As outlined in the Urban Bushland Strategy, the responsibility for the protection of locally significant bushland lies with local government and the community. The development of the site for residential purposes has been through the required planning and environmental referral processes, which included consideration of its significance as local bushland. For the site to be saved in entirety, the local authority and local community would need to negotiate directly with the property owner.
- (5) I believe that the Western Australian Municipal Association (WAMA) is working on a strategy to recognise, protect and manage local bushland and has consulted the Perth's Bushplan Reference Group and other government agencies involved with bushland issues. The finalisation of this strategy will rely on the coordination of all local governments through the efforts of the Western Australian Municipal Association.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY, KARRI IN GARDNER EIGHT COUPE

4. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Has the Occupational Health and Safety Act 1984, or any regulations under the Act relating to safety, been breached as a result of the leaving of scarfed Karri trees standing for several weeks in the Gardner eight logging coupe?
- (2) How many Karri trees were scarfed and left standing in Gardner 8, and for what reason were they left in that condition?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) The Department of Conservation and Land Management has taken a responsible attitude to safety and health by ensuring that trees scarfed and left in Gardner 8 harvesting coupe were left with scarfs replaced and hazard tape around the trees. This is the normal manner in which any such trees are dealt with.
- (2) Eleven trees were scarfed and left standing in Gardner 8 because safe working conditions have been continually threatened by the actions of forest protesters.

RAPOFF AND TOWER ROADS, ROADSIDE CLEARING

6. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:
- (1) With respect to the recent clearing of roadside vegetation on Rapoff and Tower roads, south east of Bridgetown adjacent to the Thornton State Forest, what was the reason for this roadside clearing operation?
 - (2) As parts of these roads are used for fire breaks, what is the minimum width for fire breaks in this area?
 - (3) As the roadside clearing along Rapoff and Tower roads adjacent to the Thornton State Forest has resulted in clearing native vegetation between 10 and 20 metres from the road, does the Minister consider that this represents the minimum disturbance and clearance of vegetation for the specific purpose of the clearing?
 - (4) Given that the Thornton State Forest was originally nominated for National Estate listing by the Australian Heritage Commission does the Minister acknowledge that the roadside vegetation adjacent to the Thornton State Forest is of high conservation value?
 - (5) If not, why not?
 - (6) Does the Minister consider that the roadside clearing on Rapoff and Tower roads adjacent to the Thornton State Forest fulfills the management goals of the Roadside Conservation Committee draft Code of Practice for Roadside Conservation with respect to-
 - (a) the maintenance and enhancement of the visual amenity and landscape quality;
 - (b) the prevention of land degradation such as soil erosion;
 - (c) protection of the indigenous flora and fauna values; and
 - (d) preventing the invasion and spread of weeds and soil borne fungal pathogens?
 - (7) Is the Minister aware of community concern over unnecessary damage to roadside vegetation along many roads in the south west?
 - (8) Is the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) bound by a Code of Practice or a set of guidelines in relation to clearing of roadside vegetation?
 - (9) If not, why not?
 - (10) If the answer to (8) above is yes, what code or guidelines are applicable?
 - (11) If the answer to (8) above is no, would the Minister consider developing a Code of Practice?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Roadside clearing was part of the aerial burn boundary preparation for Aircraft burn M 76. Work was generally confined to grading the running surface of the roads. Some work was carried out on the road verges to remove vegetation which was intruding onto the roads. Rapoff and Tower Roads are primary strategic access roads which form part of the burn boundary in the Thornton State Forest.
- (2) The acceptable width for burn boundary roads varies according to the road location, the long-term purpose for the road, and the type of burn to be carried out. For new construction of aerial burn boundaries or strategic roads the preferred clearing width is 14 metres with an 8 metres running surface. There is a 3m clearing for batter and table drains on both sides of the running surface. Additional scrub rolling may be required on the inside of corners. Where existing roads are used as burn boundaries the current dimensions are often accepted and the minimum amount of work to make the boundary trafficable and to provide for safety and burn security is undertaken. This often involves clearing widths of 4-8 metres and varying widths of drains and batters. Rapoff and Tower Roads vary in running surface width from 4 metres to 6 metres. On roads of this dimension additional clearing for safe passing of vehicles, for visibility and burn security are undertaken on a needs basis.
- (3) The extent of disturbance on the edge of Rapoff and Tower Roads was increased in some cases because of the removal of hazardous trees leaning over the road which contained broken limbs in their crowns (known as "widow makers") and posed a threat to firefighters and motorists. It is essential to carry out this work for the safety of fire personnel and public road users. In addition, a thicket of *Acacia dealbata* (Silver Wattle) was located on a sharp corner and was removed to improve the visibility adjacent to the entrance road to the adjoining private property. A strip of *Acacia dealbata* (Silver Wattle) was retained on the opposite side of the road in this area to provide a vegetation screen for the adjoining property owner's dwellings.
- (4) Thornton is not one of the places proposed for listing in the register of the National Estate. The 1992 study of National Estate values showed Thornton as having some indicative National Estate values, however the Australian Heritage Commission subsequently decided not to progress Thornton as a National Estate place for interim listing. The roadside vegetation adjacent to the Thornton State forest is not considered to have high conservation value.
- (5) The Comprehensive Regional Assessment carried out for the Regional Forest Agreement in 1998 shows that the Thornton area does not contain any significant flora or fauna values. The National Estate assessment (1998) did not identify Thornton as having any indicative National Estate value for natural, cultural or social values. The assessment of natural values included natural landscapes; old growth forest; wetlands; refugia; endemic and relictual fauna; rare, restricted and threatened communities; vegetation diversity and flora species richness.

- (6) (a) Yes. Disturbances of this type are shortlived. The removal of the introduced species will also serve to enhance the visual amenity and landscape quality.
- (b) Yes. The area is generally flat and no soil erosion is likely as a result of this work.
- (c) Yes. No rare or priority flora occur in the areas disturbed. Removal of introduced species will aid the protection of indigenous flora and fauna values.
- (d) Yes. Removal of the invasive weed, *Acacia dealbata*, will assist in reducing its spread.

A *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (dieback) disease occurrence map was prepared for this roadworks operation. This mapping indicated both Rapoff and Tower Roads, where they adjoin private property, are infected with *Phytophthora cinnamomi*. The work did not add to the spread of soil borne fungal pathogens as it was completed in conditions where no soil movement occurred, thus reducing the potential for pathogen spread.

- (7) Yes. Other members of the community are also concerned about road safety issues. Some landowners in the area had expressed concern at the number of near misses and minor accidents that had occurred on this stretch of road.
- (8) Yes. Prescribed burning operations undertaken by CALM are carried out in accordance with standards and practices outlined in the CALM Fire Operations Manual. This includes the completion of an environmental checklist to ensure that environmental issues are managed as part of the work.
- (9) Not applicable.
- (10) CALM Fire Operations Manual.
- (11) Not applicable.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY, EVEN AGED REGROWTH

8. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment

- (1) Further to question on notice No 2123, how much of the 330,200 hectares of forest in the 'Brown Medium-High' category is even aged regrowth following clearfelling?
- (2) For this area of even aged regrowth, will the Minister provide a breakdown of the area by forest type and by age (in decades)?

Mrs EDWARDS replied:

- (1) 5 660 hectares.
- (2) The regrowth is karri forest established in the following decades:
 190 ha before 1930
 4 540 ha 1930-39
 470 ha 1940-49
 410 ha 1950-59
 50 ha 1960-69

HOSPITALS, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH AND WORKERS COMPENSATION ADVICE

9. Mr McGINTY to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Are any public hospitals and associated health services presently utilising J and H March and McLennan Risk Management Services Pty Ltd?
- (2) If yes, do these same public hospitals also employ officers who are responsible for Occupational Health and Safety and/or Workers' Compensation matters?
- (3) Do the Metropolitan Health Services Board or Regional Health Services Boards and their associated campuses (teaching hospitals), have departments that provide advice to Government hospitals in their regions on Occupational Health and Safety and Workers Compensation matters?
- (4) Will the Minister advise how the services provided by J and H Marsh and McLennan Pty Ltd differ from -
 - (a) services currently available through in-house employees in Government hospitals; and
 - (b) services currently available through the Insurance Commission of Western Australia?
- (5) Will the Minister advise if J and H Marsh and McLennan represent these Hospitals in disputes at the Conciliation and Review Directorate of WorkCover Western Australia regarding workers compensation in addition to Western Australian Insurance Commission also representing the Hospitals?
- (6) If the answer to (5) above is yes, will the Minister advise what additional services J and H Marsh and McLennan provide in these proceedings with respect to -
 - (a) advice given by them in relation to ongoing placement of injured workers at the Hospitals; and
 - (b) advice given by them in relation to provision of alternative duties where alternative duties are available?

- (7) Will the Minister advise if J and H Marsh and McLennan are involved in the provision of rehabilitation at Hospitals utilising their services?
- (8) If the answer to (7) above is yes -
 - (a) are they approved vocational rehabilitation providers under the terms of the Workers Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 1981; and
 - (b) how do their rehabilitation services differ from those provided by the Insurance Commission of Western Australia?
- (9) Will the Minister advise whether any former Government employees specialising in the areas of workers compensation and Occupational Health and Safety have been retained by J and H Marsh and McLennan Risk Management Services?
- (10) If the answer to (9) above is yes, do the former employer departments contract the services of J and H Marsh and McLennan Risk Management Services Pty Ltd?
- (11) Will the Minister advise how the duplication of services provided by J and H Marsh and McLennan Risk Management Services and that provided by employees of Metropolitan and Regional Health Services Boards and the Insurance Commission of Western Australia, offer value for the Western Australian health dollar?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Yes. Bunbury Health Service, Royal Perth Hospital (also on behalf of Swan Health Service & Kalamunda Health Service), Armadale Health Service, Graylands Selby-Lemnos Special Health Service and Wellington Health Service.
- (2) Excepting Wellington Health Service, Yes.
- (3) Yes.
- (4)
 - (a) Marsh & McLennan have extensive experience and technical knowledge that is not available from in-house employees.
 - (b) Marsh & McLennan provide advice for the independent monitoring of Worker's Compensation Insurance claims including individual case co-ordination and management, medical specialist liaison, ability to conduct site visits, active claims analysis, reporting of trends/information and representation.
- (5) Marsh & McLennan represent Bunbury and Wellington Health Services only.
- (6) (a)-(b) At Bunbury Health Service, Marsh and McLennan provide specific expertise in operating within the framework of the Conciliation and Review Directorate, that is beyond the resources available of a part-time position based in Bunbury. At Wellington Health Service, these services are not provided by Marsh & McLennan.
- (7) J and H Marsh and McLennan Risk Management Services Pty Ltd are not involved in the provision of rehabilitation services at Hospitals utilising their services.
- (8) Not applicable.
- (9)-(10) Yes.
- (11) The utilisation of available contracted expertise in specific areas of Workers Compensation Management reduces the need to employ officers with a higher level of technical expertise and remuneration than is currently the case.

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN, CREDIT CARD EXPENDITURE BY MINISTERIAL OFFICERS

14. Mrs HOLMES to the Minister for Works; Services; Youth; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests:
 - (1) Will the Minister advise what the total expenditure on Government credit cards was in the Minister's office for the following financial years -
 - (a) 1990-1991;
 - (b) 1991-1992; and
 - (c) 1992-1993?
 - (2) For each individual credit cardholder in the Minister's office will the Minister advise -
 - (a) the name and position of the cardholder;
 - (b) the credit limit on the card; and
 - (c) the total expenditure on that card in -
 - (i) 1990-1991;
 - (ii) 1991-1992; and
 - (iii) 1992-1993?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) According to Contract and Management Service records, no corporate card payments were made for the years 1990-91 through to 1992-93, for the Minister's office.
- (2) Not applicable.

ATLAS WASTE TREATMENT PLANT, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT

17. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for the Environment:
 - (1) Who is the independent full time Environmental Consultant appointed to police the Atlas site in Mirrabooka which was referred to in the Minister's press release of the 1 April 1999?
 - (2) On what date was this Environmental Consultant appointed?
 - (3) From what date did this Environmental Consultant commence his or her duties?
 - (4) What are the minimum number of hours each week that the Environmental Consultant will be on site at the Atlas property in Mirrabooka?
 - (5) What are the qualifications of the appointed Environmental Consultant?
 - (6) What is the cost of employing the Environmental Consultant on -
 - (a) a monthly; or
 - (b) annual basis;
 - (7) Are all the costs of the Environmental Consultant being met by Atlas?
 - (8) If not, what components are to be paid by other agencies?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1)-(8) I understand that the City of Stirling did not appoint the environmental consultant as the secondary waste treatment plant was closed by 19 April 1999.

PERTH AIRPORT, NOISE IMPACT

18. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for the Environment:
 - (1) Is the Minister aware that the latest noise exposure forecast (ANEF) for Perth Airport shows increased noise impacts on the suburbs of Queens Park, Cannington and East Cannington?
 - (2) What role, if any, does the Department of Environmental Protection have in developing the State Government's response to increased aircraft noise over these suburbs?
 - (3) What action has the Department taken in relation to this matter?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) The latest noise exposure forecasts for Perth International Airport of which I am aware is the map released by AirServices Australia on 22 March 1999. Comparison of the ANEF contours on this map with those on the map published in the 1990 document "Land use planning in the vicinity of airports", which has been used since 1990 for land use planning purposes, shows an expansion of the ANEF 20 contour for the Queens Park, Cannington and East Cannington areas, as well as for some other residential areas near Perth Airport.
- (2) The Department of Environmental Protection provides expert comment and advice on proposed noise contours for Perth International Airport through its representative on the Perth Airports Steering Committee.
- (3) The Department has provided preliminary comments to WAC and sought further detail on the information provided.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT, AMOUNT OWED BY LOG BUYERS

19. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:
 - (1) Of the \$14,935 million owed to the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) by log buyers (sawmills) as at 30 June 1998, as stated in CALM 1997-98 Annual Report, how much was owed -
 - (a) in the previous 30 days;
 - (b) from 31-60 days;
 - (c) from 61-90 days; and
 - (d) over 90 days?
 - (2) For the amount owed over 90 days, who were the companies involved and what amount was owed in each case?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1)
 - (a) \$7.488 M.
 - (b) \$5.577 M.
 - (c) \$0.801 M.
 - (d) \$1.069 M

(2)	Customer	Amount
	Coli Timber Products	\$208 071.54
	Jarwood Supplies	\$92 311.15
	Pempine	\$91 664.83
	Murphy K L & G	\$77 672.93
	Smithbrook Milling	\$63 391.23
	Whiteland Milling	\$59 447.72
	Inglewood Products	\$58 626.95
	Pickering Brook Sawmills	\$50 009.79
	Wespine Industries	\$46 954.18
	S F and P J Contracts	\$39 985.73
	T Tilbrook	\$38 500.65
	Gisborne Timber Products	\$37 967.65
	De Russett B L	\$31 196.90
	Van Chac Nyugen	\$23 037.91
	Thomson N G & L B	\$20 142.56
	Fredericks J	\$19 935.70
	Whittakers Ltd	\$12 433.63
	Taylor B & P M	\$11 242.23
	Accounts under \$10,000	\$86 875.84

SMITH, MR MARK, GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

22. Mr RIEBELING to the Premier:

(1) Apart from the three month period between August and November 1997, has Mark Smith (Signet Realty) been employed in any capacity by the Government?

(2) If yes, will the Premier provide details of this employment?

Mr COURT replied:

This question was previously asked as question on notice 2705. The following answer was correct as at 14 July 1999, when it was forwarded to the member's Electorate Office.

Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet

(1) The consultancy referred to was extended to 28 July 1998 with no additional cost. Mr Smith (Signet Realty) has not been employed by the Ministry in any other capacity.

(2) Not applicable.

Education Department of Western Australia

(1) The Education Department employs two persons by the name of Mark Smith, however, neither have any known association with Signet Realty.

(2) Not applicable.

Emergency Services

(1) Yes.

(2) Mark Smith was employed by the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board from 8 September 1980 to 2 February 1985 as Industrial Officer.

Minister for Health

(1)-(2) A number of people with the name Mark Smith have been employed in the government Health sector in Western Australia since 1991. These individuals have been employed as a medical officer, medical registrar and engineer. There is no information which links them with Signet Realty.

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN, CREDIT CARD EXPENDITURE BY MINISTERIAL OFFICERS

31. Mr CARPENTER to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs:

(1) Will the Premier state the total expenditure on Government credit cards in the Premier's office for the following financial years -

- (a) 1993-94;
- (b) 1994-95; and
- (c) 1995-96?

(2) For each individual cardholder in the Premier's office, will the Premier advise -

- (a) the name and position of the cardholder;
- (b) the credit limit on the card; and
- (c) the total expenditure on that card in -

- (i) 1993-94;
- (ii) 1994-95; and
- (iii) 1995-96?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) (a) \$54,927.97
- (b) \$45,810.27
- (c) \$31,266.46

(2)

Name	Position	Credit Limit \$	Expenditure		
			1993/94 \$	1994/95 \$	1995/96 \$
D R Durack	Senior Media Secretary	30,000	116.20	-	-
E A Rocchi	Principal Private Secretary	15,000	295.25	-	-
J F Gilleece	Executive Director	15,000	2,251.40	10,465.51	16,101.65
J G Longton	Senior Executive Officer	15,000*	38,551.77	31,393.53	12,291.86
P Terry	Special Projects Officer	15,000	-	-	-
R M Young	Administrative Officer	5,000	2,238.37	1,917.61	2,072.65
T Whittington	Research Officer	20,000	10,057.48	351.84	-
I R Fletcher	Chief of Staff	10,000	1,417.50	1,212.90	800.30
W Ireland	Principal Private Secretary	15,000	-	98.50	-
A Robertson	Senior Media Secretary	15,000	-	221.00	-
C Cahill	Senior Media Secretary	15,000	-	149.38	-
			54,927.97	45,810.27	31,266.46

* Later revised to \$80,000

ATLAS WASTE TREATMENT PLANT, DUMPING OF PUTRESCIBLE WASTE

40. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Did the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) receive a report alleging the illegal dumping of putrescible waste at the Atlas site in Noranda on Saturday 17 April 1999?
- (2) Did a DEP inspector visit the Atlas site following such a complaint?
- (3) If the answer to (2) above is yes, then at what time or times was an officer of the DEP at the Atlas site on Saturday, 17 April 1999?
- (4) Were photographs taken of any putrescible waste or mounds that may have contained recently dumped putrescible waste?
- (5) What is the estimated volume or physical dimension of any mound or waste that was potentially illegally dumped putrescible waste?
- (6) Did Atlas have a licence or any other form of authorisation for the dumping of putrescible waste on or into the ground at its Noranda site on 17 April 1999?
- (7) Was there any evidence to cause the DEP to consider taking further action in regard to the reported allegation of illegal dumping of putrescible waste on 17 April 1999?
- (8) If the answer to (7) above is yes, what is this action?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3) A DEP officer arrived at the Atlas premises at 1.55pm and left at 3.00pm.
- (4) Photographs were taken of the active landfill face.
- (5) This assessment could not be made as the waste had predominantly been covered.
- (6) The Atlas licence provides an allowance for the disposal of non-inert waste (which would include putrescible waste) with each vehicle load of waste entering the premises.
- (7) Yes.
- (8) The DEP will continue surveillance of waste entering the site.

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN, CREDIT CARD EXPENDITURE BY MINISTERIAL OFFICERS

41. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Will the Minister advise what the total expenditure on Government credit cards was in the Minister's office for the following financial years -
 - (a) 1990-91;
 - (b) 1991-92; and
 - (c) 1992-93?
- (2) For each individual credit cardholder in the Minister's office will the Minister advise -
 - (a) the name and position of the cardholder;
 - (b) the credit limit on the card; and
 - (c) the total expenditure on that card in -
 - (i) 1990-91;
 - (ii) 1991-92; and
 - (iii) 1992-93?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Ministry of Justice has provided the following information.

- (1)
 - (a)-(b) The information relating to 1990-91 and 1991-92 is not available as the accounting records for this period have been destroyed in accordance with the Financial Administration and Audit Act.
 - (c) Following a complete upgrade of the financial systems in 1992-93 and creation of the Ministry of Justice from 1 July 1993, information prior to 30 June 1993 is not readily available. Extensive review of the records has not produced the information and considerable resources would be required to determine whether the information can be obtained.
- (2)
 - (a)-(c)
 - (i)-(ii) As in (a) (a-b) above, the information relating to 1990-91 and 1991-92 is not available as the accounting records for this period have been destroyed in accordance with the Financial Administration and Audit Act.
 - (iii) Hon Cheryl Edwardes, MLA - Attorney General
Brian Easton - Executive Director
 - (b)
 - (iii) Hon Cheryl Edwardes, MLA - \$5 000
Brian Easton - \$5 000
 - (c)
 - (iii) As in (1)(c) information prior to 30 June 1993 is not readily available following a complete upgrade of the financial systems in 1992-93 and creation of the Ministry of Justice from 1 July 1993. Extensive review of the records has not produced the information and considerable resources would be required to determine whether the information can be obtained.

ENVIRONMENT, LOT 418 JUNIPER ROAD, AUGUSTA-MARGARET RIVER

42. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

With respect to building development at Lot 418 Juniper Road in the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River -

- (1) Does the Minister accept the loss of National Park integrity due to private building development encroachment?
- (2) Will the Minister direct the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) to initiate prosecution of the owner of Lot 418 Juniper Road?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) Will the Minister be seeking ways in which the integrity of the Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park (LNNP) boundary can be restored?
- (5) If not, why not?
- (6) Is the Minister aware of who owns Lot 418 Juniper Road?
- (7) Has the Minister or any staff from the Minister's office had verbal or written contact with the owner of Lot 418 regarding this development?
- (8) If the answer to (7) is yes, what was the nature of that contact?
- (9) Is the Minister aware of any members of Cabinet having contact with the owner of Lot 418 regarding this development?
- (10) If the answer to (9) above is yes, what was the nature of that contact?
- (11) Is the Minister aware that due to the illegal clearing of 2 acres of the LNNP the owner of Lot 418 and Lot 1060 Juniper Road has dramatically improved views from the respective Lots across the LNNP to the coast?

- (12) What action has been taken by CALM to rectify the loss of LNNP vegetation through rehabilitation?
- (13) Can the Minister give an assurance that the illegally cleared area of the LNNP will be rehabilitated to restore the integrity of the National Park?
- (14) If not, why not?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) The loss to the integrity of the national park is minimal. The buildings will be erected on private property to the specifications as laid down by the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River. It is, however, unfortunate that these building applications were not referred to CALM in the first instance as this may have avoided the damage to the national park.
- (2) The owners of both locations 418 and 1060 have received letters of warning as they have not previously contravened the National Park Regulations. The owners have been requested to make restitution of any damage.
- (3) The damage to the national park has been minimal and of a temporary nature. The property owners have given repeated verbal and written assurances that the rehabilitation work and removal of soil will be carried out as soon as the work orders imposed by the Augusta-Margaret River Shire have been lifted.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) No.
- (8) Not applicable.
- (9) No.
- (10) Not applicable.
- (11) The clearing of vegetation in the national park was carried out inadvertently by the owner's contractor. The natural vegetation is low and would not impede the view from the houses, so there is no benefit from clearing it.
- (12) CALM has specified the remedial action required of the owners and they have agreed to undertake the rehabilitation.
- (13) Yes.
- (14) Not applicable.

ASBESTOS CONTAMINATED LANDFILL, BIRD ROAD, OLDBURY

43. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Was the Department of Environmental Protection a party to the agreement to move asbestos contaminated landfill from Lot 15 Bird Road, Oldbury, to Lot 2 Bird Road, Oldbury?
- (2) If not, who has approved this transfer of illegally dumped contaminated landfill from Lot 15 to Lot 2?
- (3) Is the transfer of asbestos contaminated landfill from Lot 15 to Lot 2 without written approval subject to prosecution?
- (4) If yes to (3), under what laws is the transfer of asbestos contaminated landfill from Lot 15 to Lot 2 an offence?
- (5) Since asbestos can only be disposed of at an approved refuse site under the Health (Asbestos) Regulations, is Lot 2 Bird Road an approved refuse site?
- (6) If yes to (5), by what authority is Lot 2 an approved refuse site?
- (7) Given that the DEP has confirmed the presence of blue and white asbestos on Lot 2, why has no order been made to remove the contamination to an approved refuse site?
- (8) How long has the asbestos contaminated landfill on Lot 2 been uncovered?
- (9) Why has asbestos contaminated landfill been consolidated on a site within Perth's Bushplan?
- (10) Is the Minister aware of destruction of vegetation on Lot 2, located within Perth's Bushplan, in order to cover contaminated landfill?
- (11) Would the Minister permit the destruction of 'Bushplan' vegetation in order to contain the contaminated landfill?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) No. However, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) accepted a management strategy, prepared by the proponent for the DEP, for the consolidation and remediation of waste material on the two properties.

- (2) I am advised that the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale has issued an approval for a site rehabilitation application for Lots 2 and 15 Bird Road.
- (3)-(5) As asbestos disposal legislation is currently managed by the Health Department, this matter should be addressed to the Minister for Health.
- (6) Not applicable.
- (7) The DEP considers that removal of the waste is not warranted, since the health and environmental concerns are addressed by the remediation strategy
- (8) I am advised that the DEP became aware of the waste material in early 1998 and that the material had been satisfactorily covered by April 1999.
- (9)-(11) Consolidation of the existing waste was part of the management strategy to remediate the waste. The area identified in Perth's Bushplan includes only a portion of Lot 2, and to my knowledge, the waste material remediation has not impinged on the Bushplan Site. However, I have requested that the DEP investigate whether any bushland identified in Perth's Bushplan has been cleared and to advise me of the result.

DR BRIAN O'BRIEN

44. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

What consultancies is Dr Brian O'Brien undertaking for -

- (a) Department of Conservation and Land Management;
- (b) Department of Environmental Protection; and
- (c) Environmental Protection Authority?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

Department of Conservation and Land Management:

- (a) Dr O'Brien is currently contracted to provide scientific advice to CALM particularly related to greenhouse modelling and carbon sequestration.

Department of Environmental Protection:

- (b) Nil.

Environmental Protection Authority:

- (c) Nil.

FOREST PROTEST

45. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) I refer to *The West Australian* article headed "Temper flare in forest clash" (21 April 1999) and ask who owns the logging machine to which the protestor was locked?
- (2) Who was using or authorised to use the machine on 20 April 1999?
- (3) Who removed the machine?
- (4) Why was it removed and where was it taken to?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) BA & CA Owens.
- (2) John Armstrong.
- (3) CALM [Pemberton District's Low Loader] moved the machine after discussion between Mr Owens and CALM's Regional Manager Peter Keppel.
- (4) It was removed to prevent further conflict with forest protesters and to complete another job in the Northcliffe area. It was taken to the Northcliffe townsite.

FARRELL ROAD, TRAFFIC LIGHTS

47. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Will the Minister confirm that Main Roads commissioned a public consultation group comprising the Shires of Swan and Mundaring, community groups, consultants and Main Roads, as part of the Great Eastern Highway upgrade plan?
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that all groups unanimously support the need for traffic lights on Farrell Road at the Morrison Road and Great Eastern Highway intersections?
- (3) Can the Minister explain why he rejected the proposal for traffic lights?
- (4) Is the Minister aware that the local community is concerned for the safety of school children dropped off by the school bus on Farrell Road?

(5) What has Main Roads done to investigate the safety concerns?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No. Traffic signals at the intersection of Farrall Road and Great Eastern Highway were not an issue during the period of public consultation. Traffic signals at the intersection of Farrall Road and Morrison Road were not associated with the project to upgrade this section of Great Eastern Highway.
- (3) I have been advised by Main Roads that the design for proposed improvements at the intersection of Great Eastern Highway and Farrall Road will provide the best overall solution. This design prohibits undesirable turning movements and maintains highway efficiency.
- (4) No. There is no school bus route on Farrall Road near the intersection of Great Eastern Highway. The school bus route operates along the residential section of Farrall Road, north of O'Connor Road.
- (5) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION

48. Mr RIPPER to the Premier:

- (1) Have any Government Departments contracted out the records management section of their operation?
- (2) If yes, which ones and to which companies were the contracts awarded?
- (3) Are any Departments currently in the process of contracting out their records management section?
- (4) If the answer to (3) above is yes, which ones?

Mr COURT replied:

Office of Energy

- (1)-(2) The Office of Energy has contracted out some elements of its records management function to Information Enterprises Australia.

- (3)-(4) Not applicable.

Education Department of Western Australia

- (1) The Education Department has not contracted out the records management section of their operations.
- (2) Not applicable.

- (3)-(4) The Education Department is currently in the process of contracting out the records management service.

MetroBus

- (1) MetroBus has contracted out archival records required to be retained to meet statutory requirements.
- (2) Pickfords Record Management
80-92 Sheffield Road
WELSHPOOL WA 6061

- (3)-(4) Not applicable.

Minister for Water Resources

- (1)-(2) Water Corporation to Inside Information Consulting and the Office of Water Regulation to Information Enterprises.
- (3)-(4) Not applicable.

HEALTH, SERVICES FOR ABORIGINAL MEN

49. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Health:

- (1) In which remote Aboriginal communities is it possible for the Health Department to provide an Aboriginal man with -
 - (a) a blood sugar level test;
 - (b) a blood pressure test; and
 - (c) a stress cardiograph?
- (2) On what date did the service commence in each community?
- (3) Is the Patient Assisted Travel Scheme (PATS) available to Aboriginal men in those communities where such services are not available?
- (4) If the answer to (2) above is no, why not?
- (5) If the answer to (1) above is yes, where is the nearest centre that can approve travel under the PATS scheme from each community?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) (a)-(b) Blood sugar level tests and blood pressure tests are available in all remote Aboriginal Communities that have a permanent Health Department or Aboriginal community controlled clinic service, or which receive Health Department, RFDS or community controlled health service clinic visits. Nurses and Aboriginal health workers may carry out these tests.
- (c) For reasons of patient safety stress cardiographs are not available in remote Aboriginal communities. A joint Working Party has been established between the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and the Minister for Health to progress the development of cardio-respiratory services for non-metropolitan Aboriginal communities in Western Australia
- (2) Blood sugar level tests and blood pressure tests have been available in remote Aboriginal communities for at least ten years.
- (3) Yes. However, a person having one or more of these tests would not be eligible for PATS, unless that test was part of a specialist consultation, or specialist treatment.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) The following hospitals may approve PATS for people living in remote Aboriginal communities:

Health Service	PATS Centre
East Pilbara Health Service	Port Hedland Hospital
	Newman District Hospital
Gascoyne Health Service	Carnarvon District Hospital
Kimberley Health Service	Broome District Hospital
	Derby Regional Hospital
	Fitzroy Valley District Hospital
	Halls Creek District Hospital
	Kununurra District Hospital
	Wyndham District Hospital
Mid-West Health Service	Mullewa Health Service
Murchison Health Service	Meekatharra District Hospital
	Nganganawilli Aboriginal Community
	Controlled Health and Medical Service
Northern Goldfields Health Service	Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital
	Laverton District Hospital
South West Coastal Health Service	Esperance District Hospital
	Norseman District Hospital
	Ravensthorpe District Hospital
West Pilbara Heath Service	Paraburdoo District Hospital
	Tom Price District Hospital
	Wickham District Hospital
	Roebourne District Hospital
	Nickol Bay Hospital

ROAD CONTRACTS

53. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

In respect to the following road projects in the Gascoyne Region -

- (a) Bibbawarra Road (Gascoyne River) construct floodway;
- (b) Carnarvon-Mullewa Road;
- (c) widen Murat Road (Exmouth);
- (d) widen and reseal North River Road;
- (e) Useless Loop Road;
- (f) Yardie Creek Road;
- (g) Burkett Road North West Coastal Highway to Exmouth Road;
- (h) Freight Improvement Program (upgrade three bridges at Nanutarra);
- (i) Minilya to Exmouth Road;
- (j) North West Coastal Highway (Billabong to Overlander);
- (k) North West Coastal Highway (Carnarvon to Nanutarra) -
 - (i) has a contract been awarded for this contract;
 - (ii) if yes -
 - (aa) on what date was the contract awarded;
 - (bb) who was the contract awarded to;
 - (cc) what was the cost of the contract;

- (dd) when will the project be completed; and
- (ee) if completed, what was the final cost of the contract;
- (iii) if a contract has not been awarded -
 - (aa) when will a contract be awarded;
 - (bb) what is the estimated cost of the project; and
 - (cc) when is the estimated completion date of the project?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following answer:

- (a) Bibbawarra Road (Gascoyne River) construct floodway
 - (i) No.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Planned contract award in 2003.
 - (b) \$2.8 million.
 - (c) 2003/04.
- (b) Carnarvon - Mullewa Road (Carnarvon - Gascoyne Junction)
 - (i) No. Work will be carried out by Local Government.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Not applicable.
 - (b) \$20 million (A financing agreement between Main Roads and the Shire is in place).
 - (c) 2007/08.
- (c) Widen Murat Road (Exmouth)
 - (i) No.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Planned contract award in 2009.
 - (b) \$0.7 million.
 - (c) 2009/10.
- (d) Widen and Reseal North River Road
 - (i) No. Work will be carried out by Local Government.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Not applicable.
 - (b) \$1.15 million.
 - (c) 2005/06.
- (e) Useless Loop Road
 - (i) No. Work will be carried out by Local Government.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Not applicable.
 - (b) \$1.33 million.
 - (c) 2001/02.
- (f) Construct and Seal Yardie Creek Road
 - (i) No. Work will be carried out by Local Government.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Not applicable.
 - (b) \$2.04 million.
 - (c) 2000/01.
- (g) Burkett Road - North West Coastal Highway to Exmouth Road
 - (i) Yes.
 - (ii) (a) 6 March 1997.
 - (b) Highway Construction Pty Ltd.
 - (c) \$12 502 151.80
 - (d) Final Certificate - 26 May 1998.
 - (e) \$12 464 403.43
 - (iii) (a) Contract for the final seal and whitelining will be awarded by September 1999.
 - (b) \$0.82 million.
 - (c) December 1999.
- (h) Freight Improvement Program (Upgrade three bridges at Nanutarra).
 - (i) No. The Freight Improvement Program is under review.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a)-(c) Not applicable.
- (i) Minilya to Exmouth Road - Widen and Construct Bridge at Lyndon River
 - (i) No.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Planned contract award for Lyndon River Bridge in 2006 and road widening in 2009.
 - (b) \$5.48 million (Bridge construction).
 - (c) \$26.88 million (Road widening).
 - (b) 2006/07 (Bridge construction).
 - (c) 2009/10 (Road widening).
- (j) North West Coastal Highway (Billabong to Overlander)
 - (i) No. Work will be undertaken by Day Labour.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Not applicable.

- (b) \$740 000.
- (c) 31 August 1999.

- (k) North West Coastal Highway (Carnarvon to Nanutarra)
There are four projects within this section of North West Coastal Highway:
- Reconstruct Gascoyne River Bridge
 - Reconstruct North West Coastal Highway from Gascoyne River to Blowholes Road
 - Widen North West Coastal Highway from Minilya to Yannarie River
 - Reconstruct Ashburton River Bridge
- (i) No.
 - (ii) (a)-(e) Not applicable.
 - (iii) (a) Planned contract awards are Gascoyne River Bridge, Gascoyne to Blowholes Road reconstruction and Ashburton River Bridge in 2003, and Minilya to Yannarie River widening in 2009.
- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------------|
| (b) | Gascoyne River Bridge | \$7.88 million |
| | Gascoyne River - Blowholes Reconstruction | \$4.09 million |
| | Minilya to Yannarie River Widening | \$23.95 million |
| | Ashburton River Bridge | \$8.84 million |
- (c) Estimated completion of Gascoyne River Bridge, Gascoyne River to Blowholes Road reconstruction and Ashburton River Bridge in 2003/04 and Minilya to Yannarie River widening in 2009/10.

BOLD PARK, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

61. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:
- (1) What is the estimated cost of developing the environmental management plan for Bold Park?
 - (2) What contribution will be made towards this cost by the -
 - (a) State; and
 - (b) Town of Cambridge?
 - (3) What is the estimated cost of developing the environmental management plan for Campbell Barracks?
 - (4) What contribution will be made towards this cost by the -
 - (a) State; and
 - (b) Department of Defence?
 - (5) What is the estimated cost of developing the environmental management plan for Perry Lakes?
 - (6) What contribution will be made towards this cost by the -
 - (a) State; and
 - (b) Town of Cambridge?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) \$190 828
- (2) (a) \$190 828
- (b) Nil
- (3)-(4) These questions should be directed to the Department of Defence.
- (5)-(6) These questions should be directed to the Town of Cambridge.

MOWEN ROAD, NANNUP-MARGARET RIVER

62. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

Why did the Government announce the sealing of Mowen Road between Nannup and Margaret River as part of the tourism package unveiled with the Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) when the same project was announced in the Transform WA 10-year road building program launched in April last year?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The RFA tourism package was developed on a whole of Government basis and provides an acceleration of the sealing of Mowden Road beyond that planned for In Transform WA.

LAND CLEARING, APPLICATIONS APPROVED

63. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

In relation to four land clearance applications recently approved by the Minister for Primary Industry after being rejected by the Commission of Soil Conservation -

- (a) has the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) received information about these four farms for further assessment;

- (b) if no -
 - (i) does it expect to do so; and
 - (ii) when; and
- (c) if yes, when will the assessments be completed?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (a) No.
- (b) (i) The appeals on the applications were considered at the January meeting of the Inter Agency Working Group (IAWG) established under the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding. Depending on the outcome of further investigations, some or all of these cases may be referred to the EPA by the Deputy Commissioner for Soil and Land Conservation, as Chairman of the IAWG.
- (ii)-(iii) Information was provided at the IAWG meeting and the DEP expects it to be forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner shortly.
- (c) This will depend on the level of assessment set by the EPA on any applications that are referred.

MANNING ROAD-LEY STREET, MANNING, INTERSECTION

64. Mr PENDAL to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) I refer to the busy intersection of Manning Road and Ley Street in Manning and ask if the intersection has ever been assessed for a "little green man" indicator to assist pedestrians, especially the senior citizens of the area?
- (2) If the answer to (1) above is no, will the Minister arrange for such an assessment, especially in the light of concerns expressed to the Member for South Perth about the plight of the elderly in the area?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) An assessment has been undertaken and a decision made to install the pedestrian signal facility. It is anticipated that installation will take place by the end of this year.
- (2) Not applicable.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES, INCREASE

65. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the former Minister for Transport's media release of 13 April 1998 where he announced an increase in motor vehicle registration fees and stated that "every cent raised through the licence fee increase would be monitored by an independent body comprising local government representatives and other road-user groups and used only for the transport network", and ask -

- (a) who is the chairperson of this body and what body does he or she represent;
- (b) who are the other representatives and what bodies do they represent;
- (c) on what date was this body set up; and
- (d) will the Minister provide an assurance that every cent has indeed been used only for the transport network?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) Mr A Marshall (Agricultural Industry)
- (b) Mr R Yuryevich (Local Government)
Mr P McCumstie (Remote Areas and Small Business)
Mrs S Collins (Tourism Industry)
Mr F Marley (Transport Industry)
Mr R Atkins (Mining Industry).
- (c) The Group had its inaugural meeting on 25 August 1998.
- (d) Yes, all collections are being applied to the transport network.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA, THE WILDFLOWER STATE DESIGNATION

68. Mr PENDAL to the Premier:

- (1) I refer to designations such as "W.A. - State of Excitement" and "The Wildflower State" and ask, who makes such decisions?
- (2) If these decisions are made by Government or Cabinet, is the Premier aware of the disappointment on the part of many people that the original designation of "The Wildflower State" is now no longer in use?

- (3) Does the Premier accept that people from throughout Australia responded positively to the designation the "The Wildflower State"?
- (4) Will he or the Government consider re-introducing the slogan if, upon inquiry, it appears that it remains a potent marketing tool for the State?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) The slogans "The Wildflower State" and "WA - Relax in a State of Excitement" were developed by the Government's tourism agency. They date back to the 1970s and were used specifically to promote tourism to Western Australia. The use of "WA - State of Excitement" on vehicle number plates was a decision made by the Cabinet of the day. Any slogan that is used by different Government agencies or has application in the wider community requires Cabinet approval.
- (2) I am not aware of any expressed disappointment that the designation "The Wildflower State" is no longer in use.
- (3) It is correct that certain segments of the Australian population respond well to the designation "Wildflower State", but certainly not all.
- (4) The slogan "The Wildflower State" confines promotion of Western Australia to only one of the State's natural assets and primarily appeals to an older demographic. Wildflowers en masse are seasonal and are not a major attraction in all regions. To use the slogan as a marketing tool is too restrictive in terms of appeal to mass markets, particularly as it should also be noted that the WATC does run specific Wildflower campaigns each year which are very effective in reaching the demographic concerned.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY, LOGGING AND ORAD CONSTRUCTION IN RESERVES

70. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

Will the Minister confirm that there will be no logging or road construction in the reserves approved under the current forest management plan that have now been handed back for logging before the finalisation of the new Forest Management Plan in 2004?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

Areas which are designated as State forest under the Forest Management Plan 1994 - 2003 (FMP) and whose tenure or purpose of area were proposed to be changed to conservation reserve under the FMP and which have not been reserved in the CAR Reserve System contained in the Western Australian Regional Forest Agreement will not be subject to harvesting operations or associated road construction whilst the FMP is in force. Access for fire protection and other necessary management requirements will occur consistent with CALM's existing conservation reserve system.

MINING INDUSTRY, ECONOMIC SITUATION

72. Mr BROWN to the Premier:

- (1) Is the Premier aware of a media release No. NOCME11/99 from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia Inc.?
- (2) Is the Premier aware that Dr. Stammer, in reporting on the economic position of the industry is quoted as saying "prices have fallen substantially over the past couple of years and the industry has been rocked, in particular, by the Asian economic downturn, low inflation and intense international competition"?
- (3) In light of these views, does the Premier still claim the economic plight of the mining industry is all related to the impasse over Native Title legislation?

Mr COURT replied:

This question was previously asked as question on notice 2955. The following answer was correct as at 14 July 1999, when it was forwarded to the member's Electorate Office.

- (1) I am aware of the press release to which the question refers. However, the press release was issued by the Chamber of Minerals and Energy, not the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- (2)-(3) As I stated in relation to a similar question in March of this year, native title legislation is obviously not the only determining factor but is a very significant issue in Australia where the minerals and petroleum sectors have to cope not only with the reduction in commodity prices but also with difficulties with gaining access to land for exploration purposes because of this legislation. It has already been indicated by the industry that the impediments caused by the Native Title Act are a significant consideration in making decisions whether to concentrate their efforts in Australia or overseas. In fact, the last paragraph of the press release by the Chamber of Minerals and Energy also states "The report identifies a number of issues that must be confronted if the minerals sector is to operate at maximum competitiveness. These include unworkable native title procedures..."

In a press release issued on 21 June 1999, a further decline in exploration is reported and Mr Ian Satchwell of the Chamber of Minerals and Energy stated that "the main reasons for the fall were lower commodity prices, problems with access to capital and native title difficulties". Mr Satchwell also said that "...we can and must introduce workable native title procedures"

ATLAS WASTE SITE, LANDFILL EXTRACTION WELLS

75. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Did Licence No 6764/2, issued under the Environmental Protection Act 1986, in relation to the Atlas site in Noranda require the licensee to instal landfill extraction wells and have them operational by 1 May 1999?
- (2) How many such wells were installed and operational by 1 May 1999?
- (3) How many gas extraction wells were required under this licence?
- (4) Has the required number of extraction wells been installed in keeping with the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection?
- (5) If the answer to (4) above is yes, then on what date was this requirement met?
- (6) Is the gas extraction system required under this licence fully operational?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The central connection manifold and main landfill gas line were completed, installed and connected by 1 May 1999. One landfill gas bore had also been installed by this time and was being used to provide gas to the petrotherm for autoclaving of bricks.
- (3) The licence did not reflect a set number of wells. The DEP amended the licence in February 1999 and required advice on the number of wells by 7 April 1999. Ten wells were proposed to be installed.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) All ten wells were installed by 13 May 1999.
- (6) Yes.

EXMOUTH HOSPITAL, BIRTHING SUITE

77. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Health:

- (1) When does the Government intend to provide sufficient funding to allow the new birthing suite at Exmouth Hospital to be properly utilised?
- (2) What are the impediments to the full utilisation of this facility?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Sufficient funds are being provided to allow for the Birthing Suite to be properly utilised.
- (2) The main impediment is the difficulty of attracting appropriately skilled clinicians with current competencies in obstetrics and anaesthetics to meet the standards stipulated in the Rural Obstetrics Guidelines. The Health Department has agreed to fund a third full time Medical Officer to be based in Exmouth to serve Exmouth, Onslow and Coral Bay. This position was advertised on 5 June 1999 in the Australian and the West Australian newspapers. Negotiations are currently underway with the preferred applicant. The two currently employed doctors have appropriate obstetrics and/or anaesthetic qualifications but do not have current competency in these specialty areas of practice. Plans are in place to have these doctors trained and upskilled to meet the Rural Obstetrics Guidelines. The provision of a viable, quality obstetric service to Exmouth is right at the edge of what is possible given the remoteness of Exmouth, the low number of births (30-35) and the ongoing difficulty (Australia wide) of attracting and retaining upskilled, appropriately qualified clinicians. The Government has provided the facilities and equipment to attract and train appropriate clinicians and nurses. Upgraded facilities to the value of \$1.76 million were opened by me on 21 July 1999. This process will take time and an obstetric service will not be reintroduced until the appropriate Rural Obstetric Guidelines are met. I understand the desire of Exmouth women to deliver their babies locally but will not allow an obstetric service to begin which does not ensure a quality service which meets accepted standards. The provision of a third full time doctor to Exmouth will make this town one of the best-served towns, from a medical services perspective, in rural WA. The reduction of on call pressure on the existing doctors should assist in retaining their services in Exmouth, thus providing for improved continuity of a wide range of medical services which will benefit all people in Exmouth, Onslow and Coral Bay.

ROAD SAFETY, YELLOW LINES

80. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the recent tragedy on a dual carriage way in Rockingham where a fatal accident occurred as the result of a driver driving down the wrong side of the road for approximately 4 kilometres and ask the Minister -

- (a) has the Minister considered the use of a yellow line painted down one side of the road to indicate that it is a one way road or painted down the centre of the road to indicate that it is a two way road;
- (b) if so what has the Minister decided to do about this issue;

- (c) is the Minister going to implement this system or a similar system to improve safety on our roads; and
- (d) if so when?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) No. The visibility characteristics and operational life of yellow line markings has been found to be inferior to that of white lines. Yellow road markings are not endorsed by Australian Standards. This tragedy was related directly to driver behaviour. The road design and associated signs and road markings were not a contributing factor.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) No.
- (d) Not applicable.

CONSULTANTS, NUMBER, PURPOSE AND COST

82. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How many consultants are currently engaged by each department and agency under the Minister's control?
- (2) What is the name of each consultant?
- (3) What is the purpose or the nature of the consultancy?
- (4) What is the cost of the consultancy?
- (5) What is the anticipated completion date of the consultancy?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1)-(5) The member would be aware that a six monthly report is tabled in Parliament which provides information on consultants engaged by Government agencies. The member should access this report when it is tabled to obtain the information sought in his question.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, RESEARCH PROJECTS

85. Mr BROWN to the Minister for the Environment; Labour Relations:

- (1) Are any research projects being undertaken by the departments and agencies under the Minister's control?
- (2) What is the nature of each research project?
- (3) Who is conducting each research project?
- (4) What is the anticipated cost of each research project?
- (5) What is the anticipated completion date of the research project?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Department of Environmental Protection:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(5) See paper No 111.

Perth Zoo:

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

WorkSafe Western Australia:

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

Commissioner for Workplace Agreements:

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

WorkCover WA:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Two research projects were approved by the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Commission in May 1999.
 - Research Project 1 - Stress, Compensation and the General Practitioner.
 - Research Project 2 - Containing economic and human costs in occupational stress cases.
- (3) Research Project 1 -The Royal Australia College of General Practitioners Research Unit (WA).
Research Project 2 - Griffith University, Queensland/Work Focus (Western Australia)

- (4) Research Project 1 - \$59 389
Research Project 2 - \$103 196
- (5) Research Project 1 - to be completed over a 12 month period.
Research Project 2 - to be completed over a 2 year period.

Department of Productivity and Labour Relations:

- (1) Nil.
(2)-(5) Not applicable.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)
- (a) Development of somatic embryogenesis for Australian plants with emphasis on the Epacridaceae family
 - (b) Population dynamics and life history models of rare and common *Grevillea* species of Western Australia.
 - (c) The conservation of endangered terrestrial orchids of the south west of Western Australia and associated mycorrhiza
 - (d) Conservation biology of critically endangered *Acacia* species
 - (e) Conservation biology of *Hemigamia exilis*
 - (f) Key issues in viability decline of seed of Western Australian species
 - (g) Somatic embryogenesis of native rushes and sedges for land rehabilitation
 - (h) *Banksia* woodland restoration
 - (i) Eucalypt canopy covers changes in the degraded urban bushland of Kings Park, Western Australia
 - (j) Biology, ecology and conservation of fauna in remnant bushland
 - (k) Overcoming seed dormancy of some south Western Australian native species with heat, soil storage and plant derived smoke
 - (l) Physiological responses of somatic germplasm to cryostorage protocols in Australian monocotyledonous taxa
 - (m) Biology and restoration ecology of spinifex species (*Triodia* and *Plectrachne* spp.) with special reference to the Argyle Diamond Mine (Western Australia)
 - (n) Genetic diversity of rare flora at the RGC Mineral Leases with special emphasis on the threatened species *Leucopogon obtectus* (Epacridaceae)
 - (o) Molecular ecology and taxonomy of *Chamelaucium*
 - (p) Broadscale application of smoke for landscape restoration of remnant bushland and minesites
 - (q) Investigations into control of Veld Grass (*Ehrharta calycina*)
 - (r) Endophytes of orchids from the Kimberley region of Western Australia
 - (s) Conservation biology of two rare *Verticordia* species
 - (t) The influences of fire regime on litter structure and associated invertebrates, with particular emphasis on spiders (*Araneae*) and beetles (*Coleoptera*), in Kings Park, Perth, Western Australia
 - (u) Micropropagation of the Gynea Lily (*Doryanthes excelsa* Corr.)
 - (v) Use of urban gardens by the birds of Kings Park
 - (w) Cryoconservation of rare mallees
 - (x) Cryostorage of *monocotyledon* species (such as native rush and sedge spp.)
 - (y) The effects of triazoles (plant growth regulator compounds) on tissue culture plants of *Conospermum*
- (3)
- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|---|--|
| (a) | Chief Researchers: | Dr T Senaratna
Dr K Dixon
A/Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Janet Anthony PhD Student | University of WA |
| (b) | Chief Researchers: | Dr P Ladd
Dr M Rossetto
Dr K Dixon | Murdoch University
Southern Cross University NSW
KP & BG |
| | Researcher: | Paul Armstrong PhD Student | Murdoch University |
| (c) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Andrew Batty PhD Student | University of WA |
| (d) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Dr C Yates
A/Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
CALM Science Bentley
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Marcell Buist PhD Student | University of WA |
| (e) | Chief Researchers: | Prof K Sivasithamparam
Dr K Dixon
Dr S Krauss | University of WA
KP & BG
KP & BG |
| (f) | Chief Researchers: | Dr T Senaratna
Dr D Touchell
Dr K Dixon
Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
KP & BG
KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | David Merritt PhD Student | University of WA |
| (g) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Dr T Senaratna
A/Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Maggie Panaia PhD Student | University of WA |
| (h) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
A/Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Deanna Rokich PhD Student | University of WA |

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|--|--|
| (i) | Chief Researchers: | Dr W Loneragan
Dr C Yates | University of WA
CALM |
| | Researcher: | Katinka Ruthrof PhD Student | University of WA |
| (j) | Chief Researchers: | Dr R Wills
Prof D Bradshaw | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Joshua Smith PhD Student | University of WA |
| (k) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Anle Tieu PhD Student | University of WA |
| (l) | Chief Researchers: | Dr Beng Tan
Dr K Dixon
Dr T Senaratna
Dr D Touchell | Curtin University
KP & BG
KP & BG
State University of
Ft Collins Colorado
Curtin University |
| | Researcher: | Shane Turner PhD Student | |
| (m) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Dr W Loneragan | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Grant Wells PhD Student | University of WA |
| (n) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Grace Zawko PhD Student | University of WA |
| (o) | Chief Researchers: | Prof J Considine
Dr K Dixon
Dr S Krauss | University of WA
KP & BG
KP & BG |
| | Researcher: | Matthew Barrett MSc Student | University of WA |
| (p) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
A/Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Michael Lloyd MSc Student | University of WA |
| (q) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Dr R Wills
Mr B Dixon
Prof J Considine | KP & BG
KP & BG
KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Rohan Sadler MSc Student | University of WA |
| (r) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Nura Bte Abdul Karim
Hons Student | University of WA |
| (s) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Dr C Yates
Dr B Tan | KP & BG
CALM
Curtin University |
| | Researcher: | Duanne Ginger Hons Student | Curtin University |
| (t) | Chief Researcher: | Dr R Wills
A/Prof J Majer | KP & BG
Curtin University |
| | Researcher: | Elisha Ladhams Hons Student | Curtin University |
| (u) | Chief Researchers: | Dr K Dixon
Mr E Bunn
Dr T Senaratna | KP & BG
KP & BG
KP & BG |
| | Researcher: | Jeremy Smith Hons Student | University of Technology
Sydney |
| (v) | Chief Researchers: | Dr I McLean
Dr M Calver | KP & BG
Murdoch University |
| | Researcher: | Jennifer Wilcox Hons Student | Murdoch University |
| (w) | Chief Researchers: | Dr T Senaratna
Dr K Dixon
Mr E Bunn
Dr B Tan | KP & BG
KP & BG
KP & BG
Curtin University |
| | Researcher: | Julia Wilson Hons Student | Curtin University |
| (x) | Chief Researchers: | Dr T Senaratna
Mr E Bunn
Dr B Tan | KP & BG
KP & BG
Curtin University |
| | Researcher: | Michael Davies
Third Year Undergraduate | Curtin University |
| (y) | Chief Researchers: | Dr T Senaratna
Mr E Bunn
A/Prof K Sivasithamparam | KP & BG
KP & BG
University of WA |
| | Researcher: | Anna Hopkins
Third Year Undergraduate | University of WA |

- (4) Most of the above projects are funded by external sponsors (non-CRF) or post graduate sponsorship which are at no cost to the agency.
- (5)
- (a) March 2000
 - (b) December 1999
 - (c) September 1999
 - (d) January 2002
 - (e) March 2000
 - (f) March 2001
 - (g) March 2002
 - (h) September 1999
 - (i) July 2000
 - (j) September 1999
 - (k) January 2000
 - (l) February 2001
 - (m) March 1999
 - (n) July 2001
 - (o) January 2001
 - (p) April 1999
 - (q) January 2001
 - (r) November 1999
 - (s) November 1999
 - (t) June 1999
 - (u) October 1999
 - (v) November 1999
 - (w) November 1999
 - (x) December 2002
 - (y) November 1999

Department of Conservation and Land Management

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(5) The Department of Conservation and Land Management conducts a wide range of research relevant to its functions. The vast majority of this research is conducted through its CALMScience Division and is detailed in the CALMScience Division Strategic Plan 1999-2004 - [See paper No 111.].
- Expenditure on research through CALMScience including consolidated funds and external funds, totalled \$12 539 160 in 1998/99. Some of the work carried out in CALM's regional operations and in areas other than its CALMScience Division also constitutes or includes elements of research. If the member has a specific query about any particular research project I would be happy to provide the details.

Department of the Registrar, Industrial Relations Commission:

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, CONTRACTS OVER \$ 50 000

89. Mr BROWN to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs:
- (1) How many contracts of \$50,000 or more (excluding employment contracts) has each department and agency under the Premier's control entered into between 1 April 1999 and 31 May 1999?
- (2) What was the amount of each contract?
- (3) What is the name of each person/entity with whom the contract has been entered into?
- (4) What is the nature of the work or service required by the contract?
- (5) What is the completion date of each contract?

Mr COURT replied:

I am advised that :

Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet

- (1) Four
- (2)-(5) Amron Consulting Pty Ltd
Contract ceiling of \$85,000 plus expenses.
Consultancy Services to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade; Regional Development; Small Business on matters as directed.
Completion Date: 1/1/2000
- Aviation Consulting Services
\$1,250 per day plus expenses. May exceed \$50,000.
Provision of technical advice as required in relation to Ministerial Air Charter and associated air travel matters.
Completion Date: 1/1/2000
- Cordiner King and Co. Pty Ltd
Contract ceiling of \$80,000. Actual cost \$68,959.59.
Provision of consultancy services relating to the recruitment and selection process for the position of Commissioner of Police, Western Australia Police Service.
Completion Date: 14/5/1999

Bowtell Clarke and Yole

Actual Cost \$58,144.93

Services relating to the writing, design, and production of a newspaper wrap around and insert.

Completion Date: 17/5/1999

Gold Corporation

(1) Gold Corporation (GC) regularly enters into agreements with bullion banks to purchase precious metals in excess of \$50,000. But these routine balancing transactions are part of the Corporation's normal course of business. Apart from such routine transactions, GC did not enter into any contracts for external advice or assistance in the provision of goods and services between 1 January, 1999 and 31 March, 1999.

(2)-(5) Not applicable.

Office of the Auditor General

(1) One – for a three year term from February 1, 1999.

(2) \$76,000, \$78,500 and \$80,000 over the three years.

(3) Stanton Partners.

(4) Contract for Audit Services.

(5) Three year term covering financial years ending June 30, 1999, 2000 and 2001.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, CONTRACTS OVER \$ 50 000

91. Mr BROWN to the Minister for the Environment; Labour Relations:

(1) How many contracts of \$50,000 or more (excluding employment contracts) has each department and agency under the Minister's control entered into between 1 April 1999 and 31 May 1999?

(2) What was the amount of each contract?

(3) What is the name of each person/entity with whom the contract has been entered into?

(4) What is the nature of the work or service required by the contract?

(5) What is the completion date of each contract?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

Perth Zoo:

(1) Nil.

(2)-(5) Not applicable.

WorkSafe Western Australia:

(1) Nil.

(2)-(5) Not applicable.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden:

(1) Two.

(2) (a) \$113 150 cost to agency: total contract cost \$188 860.
(b) \$97 380.

(3) (a) PPK Environmental Infrastructure.
(b) Landscape Enterprises

(4) (a) Development of Environmental Management Plan.
(b) Landscape Design and Contract Management.

(5) (a) 28 February 2000.
(b) 23 December 1999.

Department of Productivity and Labour Relations:

(1) One.

(2) The amount of the contract was \$78,000.

(3) The contract was entered into with Dawn Express Partitioning Pty Ltd.

(4) The contract was for office fit-out works.

(5) The completion date of the contract is 18 June 1999.

WorkCover WA:

(1) Nil.

(2)-(5) Not applicable.

Department of Conservation and Land Management:

(1) Nil.

(2)-(5) Not applicable.

Department of Environmental Protection:

- (1) Nil.
(2)-(5) Not applicable.

Department of the Registrar, Industrial Relations Commission:

- (1) Nil.
(2)-(5) Not applicable.

Commissioner of Workplace Agreements:

- (1) Nil.
(2)-(5) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, CONTRACTS OVER \$ 50 000

93. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How many contracts of \$50,000 or more (excluding employment contracts) has each department and agency under the Minister's control entered into between 1 April 1999 and 31 May 1999?
(2) What was the amount of each contract?
(3) What is the name of each person/entity with whom the contract has been entered into?
(4) What is the nature of the work or service required by the contract?
(5) What is the completion date of each contract?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

Bunbury Port Authority

- (1) One.
(2) \$741 545.
(3) AGITEK Engineering.
(4) Construction and design of mobile shiploader.
(5) 30 June 1999. (Once off contract.)

Fremantle Port Authority

- (1) Four.
(2) (a) \$71 380.
(b) \$92 428.
(c) \$95 136.
(d) \$247 800.
(3) (a) Consolidated Construction.
(b) Marine and Civil Construction.
(c) Westarc Engineering.
(d) CSIRO Centre for Research on Introduced Marine Pests.
(4) (a) Maintenance to the Bulk Cargo Jetty Conveyor.
(b) Additional Fendering on No. 2 Berth North Quay.
(c) Fabrication of 2 Steel Hydraulically operated Deflector Plates.
(d) Survey on Introduced Marine Pests.
(5) (a) 30 January 2001.
(b) 31 March 1999.
(c) 10 August 1999.
(d) 31 May 1999.

Main Roads Western Australia

- (1) Thirty-six.
(2) (a) \$140 124
(b) \$63 076
(c) \$65 000
(d) \$63 965
(e) \$384 535
(f) \$345 000
(g) \$382 000
(h) \$184 479
(i) \$73 195
(j) \$63 940
(k) \$142 500
(l) \$182 105
(m) \$454 000
(n) \$58 616
(o) \$23 153 378
(p) \$41 865 995
(q) \$75 624
(r) \$57 200

- (s) \$75 330
- (t) \$215 736
- (u) \$56 200
- (v) \$137 530
- (w) \$80 965
- (x) \$65 520
- (y) \$68 000
- (z) \$166 500
- (aa) \$30 296 199
- (bb) \$964 171
- (cc) \$15 828 991
- (dd) \$14 647 657
- (ee) \$1 827 952
- (ff) \$155 050
- (gg) \$1 249 969
- (hh) \$1 375 124
- (ii) \$118 352
- (jj) \$74 283 352
- (kk) \$91 991

- (3)
- (a) Little Transport & Processing Industries
 - (b) Boral Asphalt
 - (c) CSR Construction Materials (Esperance)
 - (d) Steelmark-Sandovers-Eagle & Globe
 - (e) Management Information Systems (WA) P/L
 - (f)-(g) DBR Group Pty Ltd
 - (h) Gutteridge Haskins & Davey (Pth)
 - (i) Bruechle Gilchrist & Evans Pty Ltd
 - (j) Kubu Australia Pty Ltd
 - (k) Evans & Peck Management
 - (l) Whelans Survey & Nathan Miller Mapping Group
 - (m) Evans & Peck Management
 - (n) Northcoast Holdings Pty Ltd
 - (o) MacMahon Contractors (WA) Pty Ltd
 - (p) Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd
 - (q) Kurt C Heath
 - (r) S Martell
 - (s) Lynchy's Contracting
 - (t) Harris Crushing & Transport
 - (u) Brookes Earthmoving Contractors
 - (v) Montague Drilling Pty Ltd
 - (w) Austral Drilling
 - (x) Boral Asphalt
 - (y) Brambles Western Australia
 - (z) Haenni Australia
 - (aa) Consolidated Constructions Pty Ltd
 - (bb) Brierty Contractors
 - (cc) Henry Walker Contracting Pty Ltd
 - (dd) Thiess Contractors Pty Ltd
 - (ee) BGC Contracting Pty Ltd
 - (ff) William Thomas Warren
 - (gg) Pavement Technology Ltd
 - (hh) CSR Emoleum Road Services
 - (ii) R & R Contracting Pty Ltd
 - (jj) Stork Electrical Pty Ltd
 - (kk) Quality & Traffic Management Pty Ltd
- (4)
- (a) Supply and deliver crushed aggregate to dumpsites at Coolgardie-Esperance Highway and Goldfields Highway.
 - (b) Asphalt repairs, Fitzgerald Street (Great Eastern Highway), Northam.
 - (c) Emergency work, Dalyup and West Dalyup Bridges, purchase of materials.
 - (d) Supply of steel requirements, piles and structural repairs Bridge 891 over the Upper Kalgan River.
 - (e) Products and services for the implementation of an integrated Human Resources Management Information System
 - (f) Redevelop the Program of Works and Commercial Management Systems
 - (g) Systems Support Services
 - (h) Alignment Definition Study and Public Environment Review Coral Bay – Yardie Creek Road.
 - (i) Design and contract documentation for the replacement of Bridge No. 810, Shire of Chapman Valley.
 - (j)-(k) Tender assessment services for Term Network contracts.
 - (l) Supply mapping services, Karratha – Tom Price Road.
 - (m) Contractual claims management support services for Engineering Construction Works for Major Projects.
 - (n) Construct 30 culvert endwalls, cast in-situ, including headwalls, wing walls, cut off walls and aprons, Shire of Greenough.
 - (o) Design and construct Goldfields Highway, Mt Keith–Wiluna section.
 - (p) Narrows Bridge Duplication.
 - (q) Supply and erect fencing, Blina Station, Kimberley Region.
 - (r) Litter collection, Great Northern Highway and Victoria Highway, East Kimberley region.
 - (s) Litter collection, Great Northern Highway and Gibb River Road, West Kimberley Region.
 - (t) Win, load and cart approximately 25000m³ of laterite gravel, Nannup area.
 - (u) Load and cart basecourse material, Great Eastern Highway, 177.18 to 178.80 SLK, Shire of Tammin.
 - (v) Construction and development of test pumping of water bores Wiluna to Meekatharra Road.
 - (w) Construction and development of test pumping of water bores Pt Gregory Kalbarri (also see 883C98 Supv).

- (x) Supply and spray bitumen, Bringo-Mullewa Road 24-41 SLK, Shire of Greenough. NWCH92-100SLK (Shire of Northampton).
 - (y) Emergency repairs to Dalyup and West Dalyup Bridges, hire of machinery.
 - (z) Load Scales for Road Transport (30).
 - (aa) Bridge, tunnel, road and railway construction, Roe Highway, Stage 3.
 - (bb) Pavement repairs, including stabilisation and box out repairs in the Wheatbelt North and Mid West Regions.
 - (cc) Construction of the Mitchell Fwy from Ocean Reef Road to Hodges Drive and widening from Karrinyup road to Hepburn Avenue.
 - (dd) Road and bridge construction, Loftus Street Duplication between Wellington Street and Carr Street.
 - (ee) Pavement repairs on various roads in the Wheatbelt South Region.
 - (ff) Maintenance grading, Marble Bar Road South, 17.48 to 316.33 SLK, Pilbara Region.
 - (gg) Cement stabilised pavement repairs, various roads, South West Region.
 - (hh) Bituminous sealing and resealing, various roads, Goldfields-Esperance Region.
 - (ii) Enrichment and reseal works, Great Eastern Highway, 290 to 326 SLK, Carrabin, Shire's of Westonia and Yilgarn.
 - (jj) Provision of electrical services for traffic control infrastructure throughout Western Australia.
 - (kk) Install traffic signals at Stirling Highway and Victoria Street, Mosman Park, and William Street and Brixton Street, Beckenham.
- (5)
- (a) 4 February 1999.
 - (b) 21 March 1999.
 - (c) 2 March 1999.
 - (d) 31 March 1999.
 - (e) 18 January 2004.
 - (f) 30 June 1999.
 - (g) 15 March 2000.
 - (h) 29 September 1999.
 - (i) 9 July 1999.
 - (j) 15 March 2000.
 - (k) 15 March 2000.
 - (l) 8 June 1999.
 - (m) 29 March 2001.
 - (n) 30 June 1999.
 - (o) 11 March 2000.
 - (p) 1 November 2000.
 - (q) 23 July 1999.
 - (r) 31 March 2000.
 - (s) 31 March 2000.
 - (t) 11 June 1999.
 - (u) 31 July 1999.
 - (v) 24 May 1999.
 - (w) 4 June 1999.
 - (x) 10 August 1999.
 - (y) 12 February 1999.
 - (z) 30 April 1999.
 - (aa) 22 June 2001.
 - (bb) 1 June 1999.
 - (cc) 8 June 2000.
 - (dd) 8 April 2000.
 - (ee) 30 April 1999.
 - (ff) 8 September 1999.
 - (gg) Work suspended due to wet weather.
 - (hh) 27 April 1999.
 - (ii) 28 February 1999.
 - (jj) 15 March 2009.
 - (kk) 30 June 1999.

Department of Transport

- (1) Twenty.
- (2)
- (a) \$570 173.44 for initial period of 2 years, if 3 x 1 year options to extend exercised \$2.5 million.
 - (b) \$700 000 for initial period of 2 years, if options to extend for 5 years exercised \$1 425 433.
 - (c) Estimated \$1.4 million for initial 1 year period if 2 x 1 year options to extend exercised estimated \$4.2 million, estimated up to \$6.8 million if media placement and advertising costs included.
 - (d) \$250 000 for initial period of 1 year, if 2 x 1 year options to extend exercised \$750 000.
 - (e) \$74 706.32
 - (f) \$55 000
 - (g) \$89 365
 - (h) \$75 100
 - (i) \$184 401
 - (j) \$80 867
 - (k) \$447 300
 - (l) \$100 000
 - (m) \$149 000
 - (n) \$299 832
 - (o) \$146 160
 - (p) \$72 261
 - (q) \$61 821
 - (r) \$142 628
 - (s) \$132 625
 - (t) \$123 466

- (3) (a)-(b) Sands and MacDougall
 (c) 303 Advertising Pty Ltd, Marketforce Advertising
 (d) Arthur Andersen, Grant Thornton Consulting, Morgan & Banks Management Services Pty Ltd, Price Waterhouse Coopers (Perth).
 (e) Marketforce Advertising
 (f) Hames Sharley
 (g) GHD Pty Ltd
 (h) PSW Electrical Services
 (i)-(j) Errol Archer & Associates
 (k) Birdon Dredging Pty Ltd
 (l) Stanton Hillier Parker WA Pty Ltd
 (m) Vinten Browning Agency
 (n) Oracle Corporation Australia Pty Ltd
 (o) Dunsborough RPT
 (p) Coral Bay Exmouth Bus
 (q) Tranby ESU Temporary
 (r) Ravensthorpe West Sub
 (s) Narrogin Williams Feede
 (t) Ravensthorpe South Sub
- (4) (a) Print Management Services.
 (b) Stationery and Forms Management.
 (c) Services to develop advertising campaigns for Road Safety in WA.
 (d) Financial and accounting consultancy services.
 (e) Appointment of advertising agency to undertake creative work for February-March 1999 speed campaign.
 (f) Architectural services for new bus station at Booragoon Shopping Centre.
 (g) Consultancy for Kwinana Freeway Bus Transitory Concept Study.
 (h) Electrical upgrade of shiploader at the Port of Wyndham.
 (i) Construction of two navigation beacons at Leeman.
 (j) Construction of a navigation beacon at Cockburn Sound Rockingham.
 (k) Bandy Creek Boat Harbour – Esperance, maintenance dredging 1999.
 (l) Property Management Services.
 (m) Design of promotion campaign.
 (n) Development of Taxi Users Subsidy Scheme Computer System.
 (o)-(t) School Bus.
- (5) (a) 21 March 2001 initial 2 year period, if all options to extend exercised 21 March 2004.
 (b) 14 March 2001 initial 2 year period, if all options to extend exercised 14 March 2004.
 (c) 11 February 2000 initial 1 year period, if all options to extend exercised 11 February 2002.
 (d) 2 March 2000 initial 1 year period, if all options to extend exercised 2 March 2000.
 (e) 3 January 2000 initial 1 year period, if all options to extend exercised 3 January 2002.
 (f) 30 April 2000.
 (g) 16 August 1999.
 (h) 18 March 1999.
 (i) 22 April 1999.
 (j) 22 April 1999.
 (k) August 1999.
 (l) 31 March 2004.
 (m) End of Year 2000.
 (n) 30 September 1999.
 (o) 11 December 2001.
 (p) 31 December 1999.
 (q) 24 September 1999.
 (r)-(t) 31 December 2002.

Westrail

(1) Ten

- (2) (a) \$210 425
 (b) \$1 200 000
 (c) \$873 000
 (d) \$50 000
 (e) \$683 949
 (f) \$54 990
 (g) \$497 107
 (h) \$1 753 744
 (i) \$121 220
 (j) \$75 845
- (3) (a) Chubb Protective Services
 (b) A Goninan & Co Ltd
 (c) Gemco Rail Pty Ltd
 (d) O'Donnell Griffin
 (e) Chubb Electronic Security Systems
 (f) ABB Industry Pty Ltd
 (g) A Stokes Electrical & Co Pty Ltd
 (h) Rail Services Australia
 (i) The University of Melbourne
 (j) Sinclair Knight Merz Pty Ltd
- (4) (a) Collection of cash from ticket vending machines.
 (b)-(c) Modification and repair of wagons.
 (d) Installation of residual current devices for electrical equipment.
 (e) Provision of video surveillance equipment at urban railway stations.

- (f) Provision of signalling equipment at Kwinana.
 - (g) Installation of signalling and communication cable at Forrestfield.
 - (h) Provision of automatic pedestrian gates on the urban railway.
 - (i) To provide an analysis of staff survey material.
 - (j) Upgrading of mobile radio facility.
- (5)
- (a) 1 March 2000.
 - (b)-(c) 29 October 1999.
 - (d) 1 April 1999.
 - (e) 31 March 1999.
 - (f) 3 August 1999.
 - (g) 5 July 1999.
 - (h) 12 July 1999.
 - (i) 30 June 1999.
 - (j) 7 March 2000.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS, FORMER MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

96. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

(1) Since February 1993, what Former Members of Parliament have been -

- (a) appointed to a Government Board, Commission, Committee or other body; and/or
- (b) appointed by the Government to any Board, Commission, Committee or other body; and/or
- (c) employed or appointed within the Government in any capacity, paid or otherwise, under the Minister's control?

(2) In each instance -

- (a) what is the -
 - (i) name of the Former Member; and
 - (ii) the title of the position,
 to which they have been appointed;
- (b) which organisation/department is responsible for the position; and
- (c) what remuneration is paid for each position?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

Main Roads Western Australia

- (1)
- (a)-(b) Nil.
 - (c) One.
- (2)
- (a) (i)-(ii) Mr Graham Burkett, Community Relations Officer.
 - (b) Main Roads Western Australia, Major Projects Directorate.
 - (c) The current annual salary for the Community Relations Officer position is \$84 956.

Department of Transport

- (1)
- (a) Not applicable.
 - (b) Des Dans.
 - (c) Not applicable.
- (2)
- (a) (i) Des Dans.
 - (ii) Chairman, Port Operations Taskforce until November 1993.
 - (b) Department of Transport.
 - (c) Mr Dans was remunerated on the basis of hours worked. The contract stated that this should not exceed 80 hours per month. The rate of remuneration and other conditions were set by the Public Service Commission in accordance with comparable entitlements in the public sector.

METROBUS EMPLOYEES, GOLD PASSES

97. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Will the Minister explain why Gold Passes issued to Metro Bus employees who have completed 25 years of service are no longer being honoured under the Government's privatised system?
- (2) Why is it that Gold Passes previously issued to a variety of Judges and Members of Parliament are still being honoured?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) The Metropolitan (Perth) Passenger Transport Trust issued Gold Passes to retiring employees who had completed 35 years of service with the Trust (not 25 years). Trust members and senior executives were also issued with a

Gold Pass. The issue of these Gold Passes ceased in 1996. However, all Gold Passes are still being honoured by all Transperth operators (bus, train and ferry).

- (2) Not applicable.

CONVENTION CENTRE SUBMISSIONS

98. Dr GALLOP to the Premier:

- (1) Will the submissions made regarding the development of a Convention Centre be open for public viewing and comment?
- (2) If not, why not?

Mr COURT replied:

This question was previously asked as question on notice 3077. The following answer was correct as at 14 July 1999, when it was forwarded to the member's Electorate Office.

- (1)-(2) The development of the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre is a competitive process consisting of two stages. The first stage being an Expression of Interest and the second, a Request for Proposal. At each stage, the procurement process is subject to strict probity guidelines, including confidentiality, arising from the Probity Rules. The Probity Rules provide applicants with assurance that the transparency and fairness of the competitive process is maintained and that no applicant's bid is compromised during the procurement process.

TOURISM COMMISSION, MARKETING STRATEGIES IN EUROPE

101. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) What marketing strategies does the Government/Western Australian Tourism Commission (WATC) intend to pursue in European markets (other than those of the United Kingdom and Germany) in the 1999-2000 financial year?
- (2) Apart from the United Kingdom and Germany, what markets (countries) will continue to be the focal point in the WATC's strategic campaigns?
- (3) What will be the nature of the campaigns conducted in these other countries?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (1)-(3) The WATC has a sophisticated Market Potential Assessment Formula (MPAF) to assist it to assess the potential return on investment in international markets. Based on this assessment, the Commission determines its core and future markets. In Europe, the MPAF identified the UK and Germany as "core" and Italy qualified as a "future" market. During 1999/2000, our marketing strategies for Italy will focus on the visiting journalist program and trade development through a number of key trade shows.

TRANSPORT, AUTOMATIC TICKET VENDING MACHINE CONTROL SYSTEM CONTRACT

107. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

With regards to Contract No. 205/98 for Replacement of Automatic Ticket Vending Machine Control System for the Department of Transport -

- (a) will the Minister state the name of the companies who tendered for the contract;
- (b) has a contract been awarded yet;
- (c) if yes, to whom was the contract awarded;
- (d) if no, when will it be awarded;
- (e) were the specifications of the new machines the same as the existing machines; and
- (f) if not, in what way did the specifications vary?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) Motherwell System Pty Ltd; Corporate Computer Consultants Pty Ltd.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) Motherwell Systems Pty Ltd.
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) There has been no change to the machines themselves. The specifications that have changed relate to the ATVM Control System only and primarily to address Year 2000 issues.
- (f) Not applicable.

ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL, ADVERTISING CONTRACT

108. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has the contract for the provision of advertising services for the Road Safety Council been awarded?

- (2) If yes -
- (a) to whom was it awarded;
 - (b) what is the value of the contract;
 - (c) when does the contract expire; and
 - (d) which companies tendered for the contract?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)
- (a) Marketforce, 303.
 - (b) Estimated \$1.4 million in creative services.
 - (c) 21 February 2000.
 - (d) Marketforce.
303.
Vinter Browning.
Brand Agency.
John Davis Advertising.
The Shorter Group.
Bowtell Clarke & Yole.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY, DEFINITIONS

110. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Further to question without notice No. 633 of 1999, will the Minister explain why when she admits that Leeuwin's Rail has become extinct within the forested area of the south west, she states "it occurred only in wetlands, which are not subject to logging," but when she states over one million hectares of the State's forests have been protected from logging, she includes wetlands, as well as other non-forested areas such as heathlands, swamps and lakes?
- (2) Would the Minister provide the definition of -
- (a) forest;
 - (b) forest ecosystem; and
 - (c) woodland,
- that she uses when responding to questions?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) The "forested area" of the south west that was referred to in the previous answer is a generic term for a broad area of the south-west where forests are the dominant vegetation type. These forests occur in a mosaic with woodland, wetlands, heathlands, rock outcrops etc. Swamps, heathlands and rock outcrops generally have no commercial tree species present or occurring only at very low density. Therefore it is correct to state that such areas are protected from logging.
- (2)
- (a) Forest is defined as a vegetation type dominated by woody vegetation having a mature or potential mature stand height exceeding 5 metres, with an overstorey canopy cover greater than 20%.
 - (b) Forest ecosystem is defined as an indigenous ecosystem with an overstorey of trees that are greater than 20% canopy cover. These ecosystems should normally be discriminated at a resolution requiring a map-standard scale of 1:100,000. Preferably these units should be defined in terms of floristic composition in combination with substrate and position in the landscape.
 - (c) Woodland is defined as a vegetation type dominated by woody vegetation having a mature or potential mature stand height exceeding 5 metres, with an overstorey canopy cover less than 20%.

SHEPPERTON ROAD, EAST VICTORIA PARK, COLLAPSED RETAINING WALL

112. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Will the Minister explain why as at 18 May 1999 the Main Roads Department had not taken action to repair and restore a collapsed retaining wall at Shepperton Road, East Victoria Park outside the Heart of the Park Shopping Centre although it had been advised of such a collapse on 2 March 1999?
- (2) Will the Minister explain why no steps have been taken at least to provide protection for the public using the adjacent walkway?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) The wall in fact collapsed on the 22 March, not 2 March. The collapse was caused by excavation works undertaken by a contractor engaged by the owners of The Heart of the Park Shopping Centre. Since the date of collapse, Main Roads has communicated with both the contractor and the owners of the shopping centre and the contractor was given 14 days to repair the wall. The contractor has advised that the matter has been referred to his insurer and Main Roads has provided the insurer with an estimate to carry out the repairs.

- (2) Main Roads assessed the wall on the day of the collapse, and has carried out several inspections since then. On each occasion it was determined that the area was in a stable condition, and that the temporary barriers erected by the contractor provided adequate protection for the public.

METROBUS, MR JIM FITZGERALD'S OVERSEAS TRIP

113. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister of Transport:

- (1) Did the Department of Transport/Metrobus employee Mr Jim Fitzgerald travel overseas to investigate issues associated with the purchase of the CAT buses?
- (2) If yes -
- (a) did he produce a report as a result of this inquiry; and
- (b) will the Minister table the report?
- (3) Was Mr Fitzgerald accompanied overseas by any other person?
- (4) If yes, who?
- (5) Will the Minister table Mr Fitzgerald's overseas itinerary?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a)-(b) Yes, a report was produced and is tabled for information. [See paper No 112.]
- (3)-(4) Mr Fitzgerald was accompanied by Mr Horst Koerner of Scania Australia P/L.
- (5) The itinerary included visits to the DAB factory in Silkeborg in Denmark and Scania's head office in Stockholm.

BUS SHELTERS, FUNDING

114. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Does the Government make a contribution towards the funding of bus shelters?
- (2) What is that contribution?
- (3) Does the Government have a policy on contributing towards the cost of bus shelters?
- (4) What is that policy?
- (5) How long has the policy been in operation?
- (6) Is the Minister aware of the new glass backed shelter design which allows greater visual supervision of shelters by local residents and particularly residents who have shelters in front of their premises?
- (7) Is the Minister prepared to review the Government's policy to enable funding of these shelters to be partly or fully met by the Government in the name of crime prevention?
- (8) If not why not?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) No.
- (2)-(4) The responsibility for the provision of bus passenger shelters lies with the local government.
- (5) Ten years.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) No.
- (8) Many of the local councils now have contracts with a supplier of quality passenger shelters where the supplier provides and maintains the shelters in return for the advertising space. This is seen by the Government, and accepted by many local councils, as a practical way for local governments to show their commitment to good public transport for local ratepayers. However, to ensure the provision of a quality product in a timely manner, Transport is considering allocating limited funds for the provision of high quality shelters on priority bus services including System 21 services, as outlined in the Ten Year Plan for Better Public Transport.

COUNTRY HOSPITAL BOARDS, ENTERPRISE AGREEMENTS FOR NURSES

115. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Does the Health Department support country hospital boards or health services negotiating enterprise agreements

for nurses that are different from the agreement now in place in the metropolitan area, or different from the agreement for the Gascoyne, West Pilbara and East Pilbara health services?

- (2) Have officials of any of the employing authorities listed on Schedule 1 made formal or informal approaches to the Health Workforce Reform division of the Health Department with suggestions or proposals for enterprise agreements for nurses different to the agreement now in place in the metropolitan area, or different to the agreements for the Gascoyne, West Pilbara and East Pilbara health services?
- (3) What written and verbal advice has the Health Workforce Reform division of the Health Department given to officials of any employing authorities listed on Schedule 1, who have-
 - (a) proposed;
 - (b) are considering proposing; or
 - (c) sought information about enterprise agreements for nurses that vary from the Department's template agreements as described in parts (1) and (2) above?
- (4) What amount was spent on recruiting casual and agency nurses for the 1997-98 and 1998-99 (to 1 April 1999) financial years for each employing authority listed on Schedule 1?
- (5) Of the amount spent on the recruitment of casual and agency nurses for the 1997-98 and 1998-99 (to 1 April 1999) financial years for each of the employing authorities listed on Schedule 1, what was spent on agency fees?
- (6) For each of the employing authorities listed on Schedule 1, and the Metropolitan Health Services Board, how much has been spent on fees and any associated expenses to recruitment agencies to employ nurses to work in Western Australia from overseas, in the period 1 July 1997 to 1 April 1999?
- (7) For each of the employing authorities listed on Schedule 1, and the Metropolitan Health Services Board, how many nurses have been recruited to work in Western Australia from overseas, in the period 1 July 1997 to 1 April 1999?
- (8) How many nurses have left the employ of each employing authority listed on Schedule 1, in the period 1 July 1998 to 1 April 1999?
- (9) How many nurses have been permanently employed by each employing authority listed on Schedule 1, in the period 1 July 1998 to 1 April 1999?
- (10) How many nurses employed by each employing authority listed on Schedule 1 have been employed on short-term contracts (less than 3 months duration) in the period 1 July 1998 to 1 April 1999?
- (11) How many vacancies currently exist for registered nurses for each of the employing authorities listed on Schedule 1?
- (12) For each employing authority listed on Schedule 1, how many nursing vacancies have been left unfilled by a permanent staff member for more than 3 months?
- (13) For each employing authority listed on Schedule 1, what is the longest period a vacant nursing position has been left unfilled by a permanent staff member?
- (14) What specific recruitment and retention initiatives for nurses exist for each of the employing authorities listed on Schedule 1?
- (15) In the *Sunday Times* dated 25 April 1999, did a Health Department official, Ms Christine O'Farrell, reportedly acknowledge that a shortage of nurses in rural areas may have an impact on patient care, and if so, how is patient care affected?
- (16) Did the Premier, in his 1998 Budget speech to Parliament say in relation to the Health portfolio, that "outside the metropolitan area, we are putting into place a comprehensive new health plan for the North West and South West regions, the magnitude of which has never previously been undertaken in the State", and if so, what is the Premier's comprehensive health plan?
- (17) Has the Premier's comprehensive new health plan been released for public scrutiny, and if so, when?
- (18) What is the timeline for implementation of the Premier's comprehensive new health plan?
- (19) Does the Premier's comprehensive new health plan propose initiatives other than capital works?
- (20) If so, what are those initiatives for each of the employing authorities located in the North West and South West listed on Schedule 1?
- (21) Does the Premier's comprehensive new health plan contain specific incentives for the recruitment and retention of nurses to the South West region?
- (22) If so, what are those incentives for each of the employing authorities located in the North West and South West listed on Schedule 1?
- (23) Will the Government put in place rental subsidies for nurses working for any of the employing authorities listed on Schedule 1?

(24) In relation to part (23) above, if not, why not?

SCHEDULE 1

Albany Health Service
 Ashburton Health Service
 Avon Health Service
 Beverley Health Service
 Boddington District Hospital Board
 Boyup Brook Health Service
 Bridgetown District Hospital Board
 Brookton Health Service
 Bruce Rock Memorial Hospital Board
 Bunbury Health Service
 Commissioner for Health
 Collie Health Service
 Corrigin District Hospital Board
 Cunderdin District Hospital Board
 Denmark District Hospital
 Dongara Health Service
 Donnybrook/Balingup Health Service
 Dundas Health Service
 East Pilbara Health Service
 Esperance Health Service
 Gascoyne Health Service
 Geraldton Health Service
 Gnowangerup District Hospital Board
 Harvey Health Service Board
 Jerramungup Katanning Health Service
 Kellerberrin Health Services Board of Management
 Kimberley Health Service
 Kojonup District Hospital Board
 Kununoppin and Districts Health Service
 Laverton and Leonora Health Service
 Merredin Health Service
 Morawa and Districts Health Service
 Mukinbudin Health Service
 Mullewa Health Services, Board of Management
 Murchison Health Service
 Nannup Health Service
 Narembeen Health Services Board
 Nickol Bay Hospital
 North Midlands Health Service
 Northampton Kalbarri Health Services
 Northcliffe Nursing Post Board
 Pemberton District Hospital Board
 Plantagenet District Hospital Board of Management
 Quairading District Hospital Board
 Ravensthorpe Health Service
 Roebourne District Hospital
 Southern Cross District Health Service Board
 Tambellup Hospital Board
 Upper Great Southern Health Service
 Vasse Leeuwin Health Board
 Warren District Hospital Board
 Western Health Service
 Wickham District Hospital
 Wyalkatchem-Koorda and Districts Hospital Board
 Yalgoo Health Services
 Yarloop Health Services

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Yes. The Department has advocated for the rights of any individual health service to offer additional pay and condition benefits, which address local issues - such as attraction and retention - on the proviso the health service can afford to meet the costs of the offer. The Department has supported additional pay and condition incentives being offered to nurses in the Midwest, Northern Goldfields and Geraldton Health Services; the offer has now been accepted by nurses in those areas. In addition the Department has supported the inclusion of a flexible working hours arrangement in several other proposed EBAs.
- (2) Yes. Some have sought advice from the Department on the possibility of making alterations to agreement. However all of the employing health authorities who have had EBAs registered have worked within the framework of the MHSB EBA, 1998.
- (3) The Health Department has given both written and verbal advice to a number of country health services in response to proposed EBAs for nursing staff. The consistent advice given was:
 - That country health services seeking to establish enterprise bargaining agreements providing for terms and conditions exceeding the employees' terms and conditions under the Nurses (Metropolitan Health Services Board) Enterprise Agreement 1998, (with the exception of minor localised issues), can do so within the Government Wages Policy and Workplace Bargaining Guidelines.

- That each proposed new agreement, where it may vary substantially from the MHSB EBA 1998, will be considered on its individual merits, including adherence with Government Wages Policy and the particular health service's capacity to finance any additional pay and condition benefits offered.
- Specifically in response to Question 3c, I point out that the MHSB EBA 1998, is not a template agreement made mandatory by the Health Department. The correct position is that the MHSB EBA 1998, is an arbitrated outcome of a process that ultimately settled the very real threat of serious industrial action by and ANF and nurses in the metropolitan area. It is a fact that the ANF insisted, as a condition of their agreement to the consent arbitration decision that the MHSB EBA 1998 be offered immediately to country nurses.

The Health Department agreed to also be bound by this commitment because there was concern that country nurses had already been disadvantaged due to the delays in getting a metropolitan EBA settled. The country health services and the Health Department have honoured that commitment made to Senior Deputy President McBean and to the ANF during the arbitration process.

- (4)-(13) See Attachment A as per Schedule 1. [See paper No 113.]

- (14) Statewide Government initiatives include:

Significant capital works funding has been allocated for accommodation for nurses (briefing note is attached).

Assistance with professional development through the HDWA Scholarship scheme for registered and enrolled nurses. Total \$343,000.

Promotion of innovative health programs through the Margaret Beard Scholarship Fund for rural nurses. Total value \$15,000.

Clinical support for new graduates in their first 12 months of employment.

The State supports a number of short nursing courses and training programs to enable nurses to update their skills. Specific areas of specialisation targeted through these programs are:

- Triage
- Operation Room
- Child and Community Health, and Midwifery

A rural midwifery program has been developed that allows rural nurses to undertake the major part of the theory and practical components of the course in rural health centres. This program is very successful, as it has minimised the requirement to spend long periods in Perth. Rural and remote health courses are funded by HDWA and offered through Curtin University for nurses who are working in the more remote communities in WA. The course is in modular format and may be used for orientation purposes or for specific training needs such as immunisation. A one year rural mental health program funded through a RHSET is available. The Combined University Centre for Rural Health has been established with Commonwealth funding of \$1.5 million per year. There is however, significant State Government input into the Centre which provides education and research opportunities to support rural nursing practice and primary health care.

See also attachment B for Schedule 1 on specific initiatives. [See paper No 113.]

- (15) Ms O'Farrell did acknowledge that there are nursing shortages being experienced by some country health services and also that the level of access to local services can be reduced if a service is unable to employ an adequate number of skilled nurses.
- (16) Yes. South West Health Service Strategic Plan and the Norhealth 2020 Plan.
- (17) The South West Health Service Strategic Plan has been widely circulated in draft form for community and expert comment. The Norhealth 2020 Position Paper was released in September 1998. Broad strategies have been developed and submitted for Government consideration.
- (18) Government is giving detailed consideration to a number of strategic health plans at the present time. Therefore, there are no specific timelines I can advise the member of at this time.
- (19) Yes.
- (20) See Attachment C and D. [See paper No 113.]
- (21) Attraction and retention issues have been recognised in both plans.
- (22) In the Southwest, the attraction and retention of a greater range of clinical specialists is essential to enable the new Southwest Health Campus to retain as much clinical care within the Southwest region as possible. The co-location of the new hospital with the Edith Cowan University is a deliberate attempt to encourage effective staff training and development alliances between the university and the health services. The investment in infrastructure and new services in the Southwest Campus is Stage One of the South West Health Services Strategic Plan and is already well progressed in implementation. There are a number of very specific clinical specialist recruitment plans already being addressed by Campus management. In the Northwest, the high turnover of staff is a well-documented

problem that makes the maintenance of consistent health care services more difficult and costly. There are a number of very specific initiatives already in progress to address these issues. For example, the nurses' EBA for all health services in the Northwest contains a number of additional pay and condition benefits that have been approved and funded by Government. Also, there are several professional development initiatives and a well progressed program of improving living accommodation for nurses. These programs apply in all health services in the Gascoyne, Pilbara and Kimberley regions.

(23) Subsidies are offered in line with the Government Employee Housing Authority Policy.

(24) Not applicable.

KALGOORLIE REGIONAL HOSPITAL, MRS JULIE BROAD

116. Mr McGINTY to the Minister for Health:

(1) Was Mrs Julie Broad, wife of the Hospital Board Chairman Peter Broad, employed at Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital?

(2) If the answer to (1) above is yes -

- (b) in what capacity; and
- (c) between what dates?

(3) Was Mrs Broad overpaid on her salary?

(4) If the answer to (3) above is yes -

- (a) by what amount; and
- (b) over what period?

(5) Was the question of this overpayment considered by the hospital board and did the board or any other person in authority ever advise Mrs Broad that the overpayment need not be repaid?

(6) Has Mrs Broad repaid any overpayment in full?

(7) Have the police or any other investigatory agency been involved in investigating this or related matters?

Mr DAY replied:

(1) Yes.

- (2) (b) Community Nurse Staff Development
Acting Business Manager
- (c) 6.1.92 – 30.6.94 - Community Nurse Staff Development
1.7.94 – 30.7.97 - Acting Business Manager

(3) Yes.

- (4) (a) \$7,064.62
- (b) 1995 - 1997

(5) No.

(6)-(7) Yes.

LOFTUS STREET DUPLICATION, DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

117. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

(1) If there is any damage caused to houses in the areas surrounding the Loftus Street duplication, will the Main Roads Department be prepared to take responsibility or will responsibility fall on the contractors involved in the work?

(2) Is the Minister aware of any warnings or information issued to residents about the possibility of damage to their residences during roadworks?

(3) What sort of home inspections have been carried out in the area, if any?

(4) Have any photographs been taken as part of the inspections?

(5) What noise attenuation measures have been taken (or will be taken) to protect residents in the Loftus Street area?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

(1) The contractor undertaking the project is responsible for any damage to property caused by construction activity.

(2)-(3) Property condition surveys are conducted prior to the commencement of works in the immediate vicinity of properties.

(4) It is a matter for the contractor or the independent assessor to determine whether photographs are necessary. Photographs have been taken at some locations.

- (5) Noise attenuation measures for temporary works are not required unless legal noise levels are exceeded. No permanent noise attenuation measures have been included in the current contract.

MARINE TRANSPORT SAFETY, PUBLICATIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

118. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Does the Marine Transport division of the Department of Transport produce a regular publication or advertise regularly to promote safety in marine transport?
- (2) If yes, then what are the publications or advertising programmes undertaken to improve safety in marine transport?
- (3) What are the specific dates or how regular is the production of this material?
- (4) Does the Department of Transport within its Marine Transport division produce a Significant Incident Summary File to assist industry in understanding the causes of accidents as is currently undertaken by WorkSafe?
- (5) If so, how is this Significant Incident Summary File made available?
- (6) If not, will the Minister undertake to produce a Significant Incident Summary File to assist the Marine Transport industry to improve its health and safety?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The WA Boating Guide is available to all boat owners, users and students of Marine Safety courses.
 'Diver Below' is available through dive shops, CALM, Fisheries and Transport offices.
 "Kids and Boats" is an integrated program for primary school children that includes an internet web site and supporting materials such as activity booklets, stickers and posters.
 "Storm Alert", a video for mariners encountering severe weather at sea has been distributed to all sea rescue groups, marine training establishments, commercial vessels and boat/yacht clubs throughout the state.
 The summer safety boating campaign is a series of television advertisements offering boating safety tips aired statewide, and occur over the summer boating season each year.
 Safety information stickers are distributed regularly to recreational and commercial boaters.
 Pre-season safety briefings to the rock lobster, prawning and scallop fleets are conducted each year prior to the commencement of their respective fishing seasons.
 Regular articles are published in the West Australian boating pages every Saturday and community newsletters and newspaper as requested.
- (3) Major publications - two yearly, campaigns - seasonally, promotional activities - regularly, newspaper articles - weekly.
- (4) Department of Transport Maritime Division does not currently keep records of significant incidents in the same way that WorkSafe WA does. However, details of accidents involving vessels are provided to peak industry bodies including Ministerial Fishing Industry Advisory Committee and the Commercial Passenger Vessel Advisory Committee. On behalf of the Maritime Division the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC) regularly publish details of incidents in their magazine as a means of distributing the information to a wide cross section of the industry.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Transport Maritime Division is continuously working to improve the dissemination of incident details to industry and works to adequately meet the requirements of the various sectors. It is intended to further improve the commercial vessel incident database. A new incident reporting form has been developed, this will provide more detail and will be consistent with information obtained in relation to marine incidents in the other states of Australia.

KINGS PARK, FIREBREAKS

119. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) How much money has been allocated to the maintenance of firebreaks in Kings Park in the 1999-2000 Budget?
- (2) How much money has been allocated to capital works in Kings Park in the 1999-2000 Budget?
- (3) What will the money be spent on?
- (4) Is the Minister confident that Kings Park is protected against fire next summer?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) \$27 000
- (2) \$4.295 million
- (3)

Bold Regional Park	\$'000
Additional works - Bold Park	550
Fencing and security	150
Feral animal control/habit	20
Management Information System	50
Paths, Carpark and Roads	100
Revegetation	150
Signage	50
Tree management	25
Weed control - veld grass	150
 Kings Park and Botanic Garden	
Botanic parkland	240
Bushland management	245
Depot relocation	365
Mount Eliza scarp	1 250
Wildflower display gardens	650
Arthur Fairall playground	300
Total	4 295
- (4) The agency is confident that its comprehensive fire control program will minimise the impact, severity and extent of fires within Kings Park next summer. Kings Park and Botanic Garden works closely with Fire and Rescue on an integrated fire response strategy. This has worked successfully over the past three years.

REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT, LOGGING

122. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

Under the Regional Forest Agreement how much -

- (a) jarrah;
- (b) karri; and
- (c) marri,

logs other than -

- (i) first and second grade;
- (ii) wood additional to the gross bole; and
- (iii) chiplogs and charlogs,

will be available annually until 2003 and between 2004 and 2018?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (a)-(c) It is the policy of the Government that for every tree that is harvested to produce sawlogs the maximum proportion of timber not utilised for sawlogs is used and converted into valuable end products. To the extent that existing log descriptions do not cover the total amount of cellulose in a tree, that additional amount would be potentially available in the future. Actual quantities of log timber produced are detailed each year in CALM's Annual Reports.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY, TIMBER SUPPLIED TO TIMBER COMPANIES

123. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Of the 266,589 tonnes of karri sawlog timber harvested from Crown land in 1997-98, how much was supplied to each timber company which has a contract with the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) for the supply of karri?
- (2) Of the 494,035 tonnes of jarrah sawlog timber harvested from Crown land in 1997-98, how much was supplied to each timber company which has a contract with CALM for the supply of jarrah?
- (3) Of the 735,385 tonnes of native hardwood chiplogs harvested from Crown land in 1997-98, how much was -
 - (a) jarrah;
 - (b) karri; and
 - (c) marri?
- (4) Of the 735,385 tonnes of native hardwood chiplogs harvested from Crown land in 1997-98, how much of -
 - (a) jarrah;
 - (b) karri; and
 - (c) marri,
 was supplied to each timber company which has a contract with CALM?
- (5) Of the 235,532 tonnes of karri sawlog timber harvested from Crown land in 1996-97, how much was supplied to each timber company which has a contract with CALM for the supply of karri?

- (6) Of the 613,065 tonnes of jarrah sawlog timber harvested from Crown land in 1996-97, how much was supplied to each timber company which has a contract with CALM for the supply of karri?
- (7) Of the 746,777 tonnes of native hardwood chiplogs harvested from Crown land in 1996-97, how much was -
- (a) jarrah;
(b) karri; and
(c) marri?
- (8) Of the 746,777 tonnes of native hardwood chiplogs harvested from Crown land in 1996-97, how much of -
- (a) jarrah;
(b) karri; and
(c) marri,

was supplied to each timber company which has a contract with CALM?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

	TONNES
(1) APPADENE FOREST PRODUCTS	3
ASHFIELD SAWMILL	136
AUSWEST TIMBERS PTY LTD	14 155
BLACKWOOD TIMBER MILLING CO	215
BUNNINGS FOREST PRODUCTS	117 518
CARDOSO PTY LTD	6 168
COCKBURN SAWMILL	2 177
COLI TIMBER MERCHANTS	1 398
COLI TIMBER PRODUCTS	1 284
DE RUSETT BL & BF	735
FRANEY & THOMPSON	2 367
GANDY TIMBERS PTY LTD	258
J & K SAWMILLS (BRADBURY)	7 170
MANGEE MILLING (W.A.) PTY LTD	45
MIDDLESEX MILL PTY LTD	1 313
MIDWAY SAWMILL	10 650
MOTTRAM CD & SONS	4 630
PICKERING BROOK SAWMILL	242
SF & PJ CONTRACTS - CP	4 755
SMITHBROOK MILLING - CP	262
SOUTHWEST TIMBER SUPPLIES PTY LTD	6 594
THOMSON NG & LB	3 943
WA PEMBERTON TIMBERS	7
WAUGH FOREST SERVICES	56
WHITTAKERS LTD	64 542
WORSLEY TIMBER PTY LTD	13 059
YORNUP MILL PTY LTD	2 887

excludes logs for Department of Conservation and Land Management's own use.

(2) A & K JOINERY	4
ADELAIDE TIMBER CO PTY LTD	8 362
ANDERSON P	78
APPADENE FOREST PRODUCTS	26
ASHFIELD SAWMILL	2 119
BEDFORD BROS	900
BUNGARRA CRAFTWOOD SUPPLIES	7
BUNNINGS FOREST PRODUCTS	206 629
CAPEL TIMBER SAWMILLING	174
CARDOSO PTY LTD	59 784
CHOWERUP TIMBER MILL	417
CLARK CONSTRUCTIONS - CP	766
COCKBURN SAWMILL	2 750
COLI TIMBER MERCHANTS	12 393
COLI TIMBER PRODUCTS	23 716
DARRADUP CONTRACTORS	22
DE RUSETT BL & BF	2 464
DENBARKER SAWMILL	1 427
FRANEY & THOMPSON	2 672
FREDERICKS J & S	367
GATTI BROS	2 600
GILCHRIST R	189
GISBORNE TIMBER PRODUCTS - CP	56
HAMILTON SAWMILLS	8 169
HOUSE JA	6 135
INGLEWOOD PRODUCTS GROUP	196
JARRAH CASE FACTORY	4 934
JENSEN JARRAH	205
JUST SLABS	16
KEOGH TERRANCE LENARD	86
LAMB ENTERPRISES	19
LEWISAW PTY LTD	20
MANGEE MILLING (W.A.) PTY LTD	8 604
MIDDLESEX MILL PTY LTD	873

MODERN JOINERY	10 110
MULLER F & CO	2 551
MURTAGH G	84
PICKERING BROOK SAWMILL	6 578
PINETEC - CP	11
POWER K D	13 506
ROCKY GULLY SAWMILLS PTY LTD	5 923
ROYCROFT K & C	16
SAUNDERS GW & NL	6 930
SOUTH WEST HARDWOODS	463
SOUTHWEST SAWMILL CO PTY LTD	7 613
SOUTHWEST TIMBER SUPPLIES PTY LTD	94
STEFANELLI SAWMILLERS PTY LTD	6 393
TAYLOR B & PM	310
TILBROOK TM	6 979
TIMELESS TIMBER TREASURES	25
TOUGH J	49
WA PEMBERTON TIMBERS	17
WAUGH FOREST SERVICES	1 122
WESTPALLETS PTY LTD	1 806
WHITELAND MILLING	21 592
WHITTAKERS LTD	39 129
YORNUP MILL PTY LTD	4 572

excludes logs for Department of Conservation and Land Management's own use and logs sold under Forest Produce licences to various customers

- (3) (a) None.
 (b) 227 502 tonnes.
 (c) 507 883 tonnes.
- (4) (a) Not applicable.
 (b)-(c) All logs sold to Western Australian Chip and Pulp Company Pty Ltd.

(5)		TONNES
	ADELAIDE TIMBER CO PTY LTD	31
	ASHFIELD SAWMILL	498
	AUSWEST TIMBERS PTY LTD	13 216
	BLACKWOOD TIMBER MILLING CO	1 651
	BUNNINGS FOREST PRODUCTS	106 705
	COCKBURN SAWMILL	2 049
	COLI TIMBER MERCHANTS	578
	COLI TIMBER PRODUCTS	1 640
	DE RUSETT BL & BF	1 357
	FRANEY & THOMPSON	2 110
	GANDY TIMBERS PTY LTD	457
	HAMILTON SAWMILLS	139
	J & K SAWMILLS (BRADBURY)	8 462
	MIDDLESEX MILL PTY LTD	1 153
	MIDWAY SAWMILL	8 213
	MOTTRAM CD & SONS	3 652
	PICKERING BROOK SAWMILL	774
	SF & PJ CONTRACTS - CP	1 673
	SMITHBROOK MILLING - CP	211
	SOUTHWEST TIMBER SUPPLIES PTY	5 168
	THOMSON NG & LB	2 483
	WHITTAKERS LTD	58 470
	WORSLEY TIMBER PTY LTD	11 877
	YORNUP MILL PTY LTD	2 929

excludes logs for Department of Conservation and Land Management's own use.

(6)	A & K JOINERY	12
	ADELAIDE TIMBER CO PTY LTD	15 082
	ANDERSON P	132
	APPADENE FOREST PRODUCTS	82
	ASHFIELD SAWMILL	4 796
	BEDFORD BROS	496
	BUNGARRA CRAFTWOOD SUPPLIES	47
	BUNNINGS FOREST PRODUCTS	340 331
	CAPEL TIMBER SAWMILLING	822
	CARDOSO PTY LTD	51 642
	CLARK CONSTRUCTIONS - CP	126
	COCKBURN SAWMILL	2 410
	COLI TIMBER MERCHANTS	6 414
	COLI TIMBER PRODUCTS	30 606
	DE RUSETT BL & BF	2 491
	DENBARKER SAWMILL	1 667
	FRANEY & THOMPSON	2 349
	FREDERICKS J & S	354
	GANDY TIMBERS PTY LTD	2 264
	GISBORNE TIMBER PRODUCTS - CP	509
	HAMILTON SAWMILLS	6 386
	HOUSE JA	2 505

JARRAH CASE FACTORY	4 943
JUST SLABS	52
LAMB ENTERPRISES	68
LEWISAW PTY LTD	53
MANGEE MILLING (W.A.) PTY LTD	8 017
MIDDLESEX MILL PTY LTD	588
MULLER F & CO	1 855
NORTH WALPOLE SAWMILLING	54
PICKERING BROOK SAWMILL	5 021
POWER K D	12 614
ROCKY GULLY SAWMILLS PTY LTD	6 641
ROYCROFT K & C	36
SAUNDERS GW & NL	6 315
SOUTHWEST SAWMILL CO PTY LTD	7 489
SOUTHWEST TIMBER SUPPLIES PTY	993
STEFANELLI SAWMILLERS PTY LTD	5 022
TAYLOR B & PM	26
TILBROOK TM	3 355
TIMELESS TIMBER TREASURES	91
WAUGH FOREST SERVICES	1 022
WHITELAND MILLING	18 965
WHITTAKERS LTD	54 061
YORNUP MILL PTY LTD	3 513

excludes logs for Department of Conservation and Land Management's own use and logs sold under Forest Produce Licences to various customers.

- (7) (a) None.
 (b) 195 165 tonnes.
 (c) 551 612 tonnes.
- (8) (a) Not applicable.
 (b)-(c) All logs sold to Western Australian Chip and Pulp Company Pty Ltd.

WESTRAIL TRAIN DRIVERS, HEARING PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

124. Mr CARPENTER to the Minister for Transport:

Will the Minister advise what ear hearing protection equipment was provided to Westrail train drivers?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

I presume the member is referring to hearing protection equipment currently provided to Westrail train drivers and my answer is provided on that basis. Westrail's freight and country passenger train drivers are provided with ear plugs and ear muffs. Westrail's urban passenger train drivers are provided with ear plugs.

HEALTH, POSTNATAL DEPRESSION

125. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister for Health:

- (1) (a) Does the Minister acknowledge that the official figures show that the true prevalence of post-natal depression (PND) in this State is around 10 to 20% (2500 to 5000) of all child bearing women; and
 (b) will the Minister advise why the Government has not increased funding to the Fremantle Women's Health Centre so that it can run its vital PND program for 52 weeks of the year?
- (2) What is the Government's total funding for post natal depression programs?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) (a) The prevalence of post-natal depression (PND) in Western Australia is currently the subject of a major collaborative study being undertaken by the Department for Neonatal Paediatrics; University Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Women; and Infants Research Foundation at King Edward Memorial Hospital, Subiaco. Preliminary findings from this study of 2,000 birthing women - from the two largest maternity hospitals in Western Australia - indicate that 16% of women were depressed during the first 12 months following confinement.
- (b) Fremantle Women's Health Centre signed an Agreement for the 1998-99 financial year to provide PND assessment, therapeutic and support group services for \$50,000. In September 1998 they received a small increase bringing the total amount of funding for the year to \$51,300. Support groups are timed at their discretion during the year. In addition to this funding Fremantle Women's Health Centre receives \$ 209,610 from Health Department of W.A for its programs
- (2) PND services are provided by all government specialist mental health services, government community health services, private practitioners and some non-government organisations as part of their core operations. The Mental Health Division of the Health Department of WA, purchases some special PND services from three metropolitan non-government organisations which provide additional services to the others existing within the health sector. These organisations are the Rockingham and Gosnells Women's Health Centres as well as the Fremantle Women's

Health Centre. These three Women's Health Centres received \$51,300 each in 1998-1999 to provide special PND support services. In total these three organisations receive \$ 650,000 via HDWA for their overall program. All the above services will be continued and an additional \$ 250,000 will be allocated as part of the Mental Health purchasing program for 1999/2000. This will provide for an expansion in PND services through key non government providers, support for further General Practitioner training and provision of specialist resource materials.

JAMES STREET, GUILDFORD

128. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Will the Minister confirm that Main Roads Western Australia have commenced work in conjunction with the Shire of Swan on the narrowing of James Street, Guildford?
- (2) Will the Minister provide details of what level of consultation was undertaken?
- (3) Will the Minister advise which Government Agencies provided comment?
- (4) Will the Minister advise if the Police Service and/or Fire and Rescue provide comment?
- (5) If the answer to (4) above is yes, will the Minister advise what those comments were?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Work has commenced and is being undertaken by the Shire of Swan on the section between Johnson Street and the single lane bridge over the Swan River.
- (2) Community consultation commenced in 1996 as part of the Guildford Traffic Management Study conducted by the Shire of Swan. This involved a letter drop to every household and business in the study area and two public information days. Public consultation has been ongoing since. In March 1999 the Shire of Swan wrote to local members of Parliament including the Member for Midland extending an invitation to attend a briefing on the James Street narrowing.
- (3) Comment was provided by the WA Police Service and Fire and Emergency Services Authority of Western Australia. Main Roads Western Australia was involved in the design of the project.
- (4)-(5) Yes. Both expressed some concern at the potential for traffic congestion. However, Council gave priority to the localised benefits. The potential for traffic congestion on this section of James Street is no greater than already potentially exists on the adjacent Guildford Bridge.

WILLIAM STREET-BRIXTON STREET, BECKENHAM, TRAFFIC LIGHTS

130. Mr RIPPER to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Does the State Government propose to install traffic lights at the corner of William Street and Brixton Street, Beckenham?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, when?
- (4) Did the Government promise residents to install these traffic lights before Christmas 1998?
- (5) Why has this promise not been honoured?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1)-(3) The traffic signals have been installed and became operational on Friday, 18 June 1999.
- (4)-(5) It was originally intended to install the signals prior to Christmas 1998. However, this was not possible due to other higher priority works.

POLICE OFFICERS, SUSPENDED

133. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Will the Minister advise the number of police officers, since the instigation of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), that have been named by the police service or ACC and been suspended pending inquiry?
- (2) How many of these officers have been found guilty of any offence?
- (3) How many officers are still under investigation?
- (4) What is the longest term a police officer has been under investigation without being convicted of an offence?
- (5) How many police officers are currently under suspension and what is the longest period of suspension?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) We cannot comment on behalf of ACC actions. The Police Service has no means of calculating when an officer under investigation by the Service has been named. A total of 40 officers have been stood down from all duties since the establishment of the ACC.
- (2) Of the number specified in (1) above, 10 officers have been convicted of offences by courts, whilst 3 former officers are awaiting trial and 1 officer is yet to appear before the courts.
- (3) Of the number provided in (1), 4 officers are the subject of investigation by the Western Australia Police Service.
- (4) It is not possible to provide an accurate answer to this question. Officers, the subject of serious allegations, may be stood down from all duties during the course of the investigation. An investigation may be of a short duration; for example, one month, or prolonged; for example, up to six months. The longest term an officer has been suspended (subsequently changed to being stood down, on full pay) was 6 years. However, during the majority of this period the officer was not under investigation but was the subject of pre-trial proceedings.
- (5) A total of 11 officers are currently stood down from all duties, on full pay. Of this total the longest period of "stand down" is two years and five months.

It should be noted: Statistics nominated relate to police officers "stood down" from duty pending the outcome of investigations and/or court results. Statistics are for the period 1 November 1996 to present.

NATIVE FOREST AND PLANTATION WOOD PRODUCERS

134. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) In which wood product sectors do plantation wood producers and native forest wood producers compete?
- (2) In which sectors are the plantation wood producers likely to dominate in the future?
- (3) In which sectors are native forest wood producers likely to maintain or assert dominance?
- (4) What quantities of wood are used by these different sectors?

Mrs EDWARDS replied:

- (1) Native hardwood forest products in jarrah generally compete with local plantation timbers on:
structural sawn wood
appearance grade sawn wood
fence posts and strainers
sleepers
flooring
decking
solid and veneer furniture
mouldings

Native hardwood forest products in karri generally compete with local plantation timbers on:
chip and pulp
structural sawn wood
appearance grade sawn wood
sleepers
flooring
decking
solid and veneer furniture

Native hardwood forest products in marri generally compete with local plantation timbers on:
chip and pulp
structural sawn wood
appearance grade sawn wood
flooring
solid and veneer furniture

Market demands, substitution and pricing need to be taken into consideration.

- (2) Plantation wood producers are likely to dominate the following local wood product sectors:
Chip and pulp
Sawn wood (structural)
Reconstituted products (particleboard, MDF etc)
- (3) Native forest wood producers are likely to dominate the following local wood product sectors:
High grade charcoal/activated carbon
Sawn wood (appearance)
Flooring
Decking
Outdoor furniture
Solid/veneer furniture
Feature grade furniture
Mouldings
craftwood
- (4) Sufficient information to answer this question is not available to CALM.

BIODIVERSITY LEGISLATION

135. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

With respect to the proposed new Biodiversity Legislation -

- (a) who is drafting this legislation;
- (b) what is the basis of the legislation;
- (c) what community consultation will be undertaken; and
- (d) when will this be undertaken?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (a) New biodiversity conservation legislation will be drafted by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office on instructions from the Department of Conservation and Land Management;
- (b) The legislation will replace the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* with a broader and modern approach to biodiversity conservation which will take into account public comment received on the draft *Wildlife Conservation Bill 1992* and more recent trends in and commitments to the conservation of native species and ecological communities;
- (c) A draft Bill will be released for a period of public comment and submissions received on the draft Bill will be considered, and, where appropriate, amendments will be made before a final version is introduced into the Parliament;
- (d) Once a draft Bill suitable for public release has been prepared.

ROAD TRAUMA TRUST FUND, FUNDING

137. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

(1) Will the Minister advise -

- (a) the amount of funds directed to the road trauma trust fund; and
- (b) the source of those funds for the following financial years -

- (i) 1998-99;
- (ii) 1997-98; and
- (iii) 1996-97?

(2) What is the current financial status of the road trauma trust fund?

(3) Has the Minister received any request to increase funding to the road trauma trust fund?

(4) If so, when and by whom?

(5) (a) Will the Minister advise the percentage increase in revenue from multi novas and red light cameras for the following financial years -

- (i) 1998-99;
- (ii) 1997-98; and
- (iii) 1996-97, and

(b) will the Minister advise why there has not been a commensurate percentage increase in funding to the road trauma trust fund for these years?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

(1) Funds received by Road Trauma Trust Fund.

	(i) 1998/99	(ii) 1997/98	(iii) 1996/97
(a) Camera Fines	*\$11 750 000.00	\$5 299 998.18	\$4 382 504.46
(b) Interest on Funds	*\$135 000.00	\$104 333.00	
	\$11 885 000.00	\$5 404 331.18	\$4 382 504.46

* includes estimate for June 1999

In the 1996/97 fiscal year, figures to 31 January 1997 are quoted from the Road Traffic Board.

(2) Funds standing to the credit of the Road Trauma Trust Fund at 31 May were \$4 313 297.94.

(3) No formal request has been submitted. However, if appropriate road safety campaigns are identified and considered effective in combatting road trauma, adequate funding from the Trust Fund would be looked at.

(4) Not applicable.

(5) (a) Percentage change in fines paid for Multanova and Red Light Camera Fines.

- (i) 1998-99 121.95%.
- (ii) 1997-98 20.94%.
- (iii) 1996-97 77.03%.

- (b) The increase in funding to the Road Trauma Trust Fund is directly proportionate to the increase in fines paid.

ROADS, FIX AUSTRALIA, FIX OUR ROADS CAMPAIGN

138. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Further to question on notice No. 2380 of 1999, did any of the television advertisements referred to in the Minister's answer -
- (a) call on the Federal Government to provide additional road funding;
 - (b) outline the amount collected in fuel taxes by the Federal Government compared to the amount allocated to roads; and
 - (c) endeavour to create any public pressure on the Federal Government to provide additional funds for roads?
- (2) Is it true to say that the "Fix the Roads" campaign has changed focus from one of putting political pressure on the Federal Government to provide more money for roads to a campaign more dealing with the need to reduce road crashes, congestion and pollution?
- (3) Is it true to say that since the defeat of the Federal Labor Government the political directions of the "Fix the Roads" campaign have changed so that the Federal Government is no longer the target of the campaign?
- (4) Apart from the \$145,448 spent on advertising in the 1997-98 financial year, will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the balance of expenditure (\$389 560.26)?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) (a) Yes.
(b) No.
(c) Yes.
- (2) No. The Fix Australia Fix the Roads Campaign has since its inception, continued to put pressure on the Federal Government of the day by increasing the awareness of what additional road investment will achieve in reducing road trauma, reducing congestion and reducing pollution.
- (3) No. The Federal Government collects over \$10 billion in Federal fuel excise from road users and returns just \$1.6 billion to roads across the Nation.
- | | |
|---|---------|
| (4) Printing services, paper supplies, campaign promotional material, print and negative preparation. | 114 539 |
| Professional services including copywriting, strategy development, production management, website maintenance, campaigning and public relations advice. | 71 425 |
| Advertisement production | 38 616 |
| Campaign administration | 13 290 |
| Couriers | 4 188 |
| Authors amendments | 2 054 |
| Sub-total | 244 112 |
| Advertising | 145 448 |
| Total | 389 560 |

GRANGE AND CAMBRIDGE DRIVES, CROSSWALK

142. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Cooloongup Primary School Community is so concerned about the safety of their students when crossing Grange and Cambridge Drives that they have applied for a crosswalk attendant for these roads?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this crossing was approved on 25 November 1998 and still has not been installed?
- (3) When does the Minister intend to have this crosswalk installed?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1)-(3) I am advised that Main Roads received advice of the Commissioner of Police approval for provision of a warden controlled crossing on 14 May 1999, the associated signs were installed on 17 July 1999 and roadmarkings and bollards were installed by Main Roads on 3 August 1999.

WORKERS COMPENSATION, JOURNEY CLAIMS

143. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Have any claims been made under the Workers Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 1981 since 1988 in relation to fatalities which would be classified as "journey claims" as they are in relation to the travel to or from work?
- (2) If so, then how many such claims occurred in each year from 1988 to the present?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)

1988	3 (including 1 disallowed claim)
1989	15
1990	15 (including 1 disallowed claim)
1991	6
1992	7
1993	5
1994	2
1995	Nil
1996	1 (on the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Commission General Fund).

Amendments to the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 1981 proclaimed on 24 December 1993 made "journey" claims where the accident occurred prior to that date non compensable. The claims made in 1994 and 1996 were for accidents that occurred prior to 24 December 1993.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION, COMMISSIONER PARKS' RETIREMENT

144. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Has Commissioner Colin Parks of the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission formally advised of his intention to retire?
- (2) If not, then what is the status of your claim that Commissioner Parks will retire in December 1999?
- (3) How many cases already heard by Commissioner Parks are currently still awaiting his determination and publication of his decision?
- (4) Will cases continue to be allocated to Commissioner Parks to hear and if so, up to which month is it expected that cases will continue to be allocated to him?
- (5) How will cases be finalised if a judgement has not been given by the date of Commissioner Parks's resignation?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3)-(5) Under the Industrial Relations Act, the allocation of work is solely a matter for the Chief Commissioner. I am advised that Commissioner Parks will complete all outstanding matters before he retires.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION, FIELDING REPORT

145. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Was the Report of the Review of the Western Australian Labour Relations Legislation by Commissioner Fielding presented to the Court Government in July 1995?
- (2) Did Recommendation 61 of the Fielding Report recommend that "The Act be amended to require the Commission to deliver its decisions promptly"?
- (3) Is the Court Government going to undertake any implementation of the Fielding Report recommendations and specifically is it in favour of Recommendation 61?
- (4) If so, then when will legislation be introduced into the Parliament to implement Recommendation 61 of the Fielding Report which would require the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission to deliver its decisions promptly?
- (5) Will the Minister tell an Estimates Committee on the 26 May 1999 that it was "incumbent upon anybody in that position to provide a judgement to people in a timely fashion" when referring to the delays with decisions by Commissioner Parks?
- (6) Will the Minister provide an explanation as to why it is incumbent upon Commissioners to provide decisions, yet Ministers of the Court Government are not required to provide timely decisions and act upon the recommendations of the reports they commission?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

(1)-(2) Yes.

- (3) Some Fielding report recommendations have been incorporated in previous legislation. The giving of legislative effect to other recommendations is under consideration. The Government considers prompt decisions to be good practice.
- (4) Consultation with peak labour relations bodies has been occurring to ascertain those matters of significance where consensus might be achieved regarding legislative change.
- (5) I made this statement to the Estimates Committee on 26 May 1999.
- (6) It has never been a principle adopted by Governments of any persuasion that they must act upon the recommendations of reports they have commissioned.

EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION, COMPLIANCE INQUIRIES

146. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) For the calendar year 1998, how many formal enquiries were received in relation to compliance with relevant State and Federal employment laws?
- (2) For 1998, what were the number of such formal enquiries by each significant industry or industry sector?
- (3) For the calendar year 1997, how many formal enquiries were received in relation to compliance with relevant State and Federal employment laws?
- (4) For 1997, what were the number of such formal enquiries by each significant industry or industry sector?
- (5) For the calendar year 1996, how many formal enquiries were received in relation to compliance with relevant State and Federal employment laws?
- (6) For 1996, what were the number of such formal enquiries by each significant industry or industry sector?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) 929 formal enquiries were received under the State jurisdiction for the calendar year 1998. DOPLAR was contracted to provide Federal compliance services from 1 July 1998. 40 Federal matters were received from 1 July to 31 December 1998.
- (2) The formal enquiries received in 1998 by each significant industry sector include:
- | | |
|---|-----|
| Retail and Wholesale Trade | 185 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 177 |
| Manufacturing | 79 |
| Mining | 10 |
| Construction | 47 |
| Property and Business Services, Finance and Insurance | 142 |
| Transport | 49 |
| Agriculture | 27 |
| Health & Community Services | 40 |
| Other | 213 |
- (3) 773 formal enquiries were received under the State jurisdiction for the calendar year 1997.
- (4) The formal enquiries received in 1997 by each significant industry sector include:
- | | |
|---|-----|
| Retail and Wholesale Trade | 203 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 126 |
| Manufacturing | 74 |
| Mining | 14 |
| Construction | 40 |
| Property and Business Services, Finance and Insurance | 115 |
| Transport | 39 |
| Agriculture | 10 |
| Health & Community Services | 23 |
| Other | 129 |
- (5) 689 formal enquiries were received under the State jurisdiction for the calendar year 1996.
- (6) The formal enquiries received in 1996 by each significant industry sector include:
- | | |
|---|-----|
| Retail and Wholesale Trade | 145 |
| Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants | 148 |
| Manufacturing | 80 |
| Mining | 4 |
| Construction | 40 |
| Property and Business Services, Finance and Insurance | 81 |
| Transport | 51 |
| Agriculture | 10 |
| Health & Community Services | 18 |
| Other | 112 |

SECURITY INDUSTRY, BREACHES OF AWARD

147. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Did the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations (DOPLAR) Report of April 1999 titled "Analysis of Routine Visits Programme Security Industry" find that of the 39 security firms visited by DOPLAR officers, 45 per cent were found to be breaching the State Award?
- (2) Did the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations Report of April 1999 titled "Analysis of Routine Visits Programme Security Industry" find that of the 39 security firms visited by DOPLAR officers, 37 per cent were found to be breaching the Federal Award?
- (3) Does this mean that 82 per cent of the 39 firms visited were in breach of either a State or Federal Award?
- (4) Does this mean that of the 39 security firms visited, only 7 could be confirmed as being fully in compliance with their legal responsibilities under Federal or State Awards?
- (5) If so, will the Minister publicly commend these good employers and do so by providing the names of those security firms which were confirmed as being in full compliance with their legal obligations under State or Federal Awards?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1)-(2) Of the 39 firms visited by DOPLAR, 8 (21%) were in breach of the State award and 6 (15%) were in breach of the Federal award.
- (3) No. 36% were in breach of a State or Federal award.
- (4) No. 12 employers were confirmed as fully complying with the award. 13 employers had registered agreements in place.
- (5) The purpose of the exercise was to raise awareness of industrial obligations in the industry. It was conducted with the support and co-operation of the Security Agents Institute. No purpose is served by identifying those firms who were found to be complying, or not complying with the State or Federal Awards.

MULTIRIDER TICKETS, LEGIBILITY

148. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the ink on multi-riders is difficult for the near sighted and elderly to read?
- (2) If so, what does the Minister intend to do about it?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) The ink on multi-riders is legible if the ticket validation machine inking ribbons are maintained in good condition.
- (2) All ticket validation machines are serviced on a regular basis by Delairco Bartrol and the services include the replacement of the inking ribbon, if necessary. If the inking ribbon fails between servicing, the contracted bus operator must replace the ribbon as part of its contracted responsibility to ensure that the machine is maintained in proper working order.

MULTIRIDER TICKETS, VALIDATING PROBLEMS

149. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of problems being experienced by train commuters in validating multi-riders?
- (2) How many complaints have been recorded in the past six months?
- (3) What action is being taken by the Department of Transport to deal with this problem?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes. Errors are primarily resulting from the use of damaged or dirty tickets which cannot be read when entered into the validating equipment.
- (2) Multi-rider tickets are frequently used by passengers who transfer between train and bus modes of travel. In the past six months there have been a total of 13 525 ticket failures. During that same period there have been in excess of 11 million validations across the system, which gives a failure rate of 0.001%.
- (3) The Department of Transport has taken several actions to reduce the number of validation errors. These include; the issue (free of charge) of 50 000 plastic ticket holders with ticket care instructions (particularly to students) to safeguard tickets from damage and grime. Transport has also recently completed the re-conditioning and upgrade of all ticket machines, the checking of produced ticket specifications to ensure that they are within prescribed tolerances and the routine maintenance of all ticket machines every three months.

MULTIRIDER TICKETS, REFUNDS

150. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

Why is it not possible for users of public transport who have gone to the expense of purchasing an already expensive multi-rider to have unused parts of that ticket transferred or refunded?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

Multi rider tickets are issued on a non refundable basis, and this is clearly printed on the reverse of the ticket as a condition of its sale. Unused parts of tickets as a general rule are not refunded unless there are extenuating circumstances. Unused portions of tickets as a general rule are transferred to equivalent replacement tickets if there has been a problem with the original ticket's acceptance by validating equipment.

NEWCASTLE STREET, TRAFFIC FLOW

153. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What is the Government's plan for Newcastle Street?
- (2) Has the Ministry done a traffic count in Newcastle Street since the major tunnel work was completed?
- (3) What are the daily figures for Newcastle Street in 1999?
- (4) What is the anticipated reduction in traffic flow when the tunnel is opened?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Newcastle Street is an important distributor road under the care and control of the local authorities of Perth and Vincent. The East Perth Redevelopment Authority, on behalf of the Ministry for Planning, is undertaking the management of improvement works, which are part of the Northbridge Urban Renewal Project.
- (2)-(3) Main Roads conducted traffic counts in March 1999 which indicate the traffic volume on Newcastle Street west of William Street is approximately 15 000 vehicles per day.
- (4) A traffic study undertaken by Sinclair Knight Merz in August 1998 forecast that there will be an increase in traffic on Newcastle Street to about 20 000 vehicles per day in 2001.

CYCLISTS, RIDING ON FOOTPATHS AND ROADS

155. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What is the present law in relation to cyclists riding on -
 - (a) footpaths; and
 - (b) roads?
- (2) Is the Minister aware of any plan to change the law in relation to this issue?
- (3) What is the number of prosecutions in relation to this matter in the years -
 - (a) 1998;
 - (b) 1997; and
 - (c) 1996?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1)
 - (a) Under present law, cycling is prohibited on footpaths.
 - (b) Under present law, cycling is allowed on all roads unless prohibited by signage for example, cycling is banned on Freeways and certain Highways.
- (2) Yes. The Australian Road Rules, which it is anticipated to be adopted in early 2000, will allow for cyclists 12 years and under, to use footpaths. Jurisdictions have the option of extending this to cyclists older than 12 years.
- (3)

(a)	1998	376 prosecutions.
(b)	1997	555 prosecutions.
(c)	1996	897 prosecutions.

CLEAVER STREET, WEST PERTH, FUTURE PLAN

156. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What is the final plan for Cleaver Street West Perth in relation to continuing road works arising from the Northbridge Tunnel?
- (2) Will a 40 km speed limit be placed on the street?

- (3) Is there an intention to close Cleaver Street at one end?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Following construction of the Graham Farmer Freeway, access will be available from Loftus Street via Aberdeen Street to Cleaver Street. No access will be available from Cleaver Street to Northbridge Tunnel or Loftus Street for southbound traffic.
- (2)-(3) No, not as part of the Graham Farmer Freeway project. Cleaver Street is a local road under the care and control of the City of Perth and Town of Vincent. Any further modifications to the street or the speed limit are matters for consideration by the councils.

RAILWAY SLEEPERS, TENDER No 98/98

158. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has a contract been awarded for tender number 93/98 for the Supply and Delivery of 30 000 Type A and 5 000 Type B First Grade Timber Railway Sleepers?
- (2) If yes -
- to whom was the contract awarded;
 - on what date was the contract awarded;
 - how many tenders were received;
 - what was the cost of the contract; and
 - what percentage, if any, of Karri sleepers will be supplied by the contractor?
- (3) If the answer to (1) above is no, when is it anticipated that the contract will be awarded?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a)-(b) Contracts were awarded to ten companies on 29 January 1999 as follows:

Company	Type A Sleepers	Type B Sleepers
Gatti Sawmill Pty Ltd	3 000	620
Colli and Sons	5 000	3 000
Rocky Gully Sawmills Pty Ltd	3 600	
Bunnings Forrest Products	4 300	
Mangee Milling (WA) Pty Ltd	1 630	
Whiteland Milling	3 052	300
K D Power and Company	2 000	
J A House Sawmilling and Grazing Pty Ltd	2 270	1 080
Coli Timber Merchants	3 580	
Tilbrook Sawmill	1 568	

- Twelve.
 - The total cost of the ten contracts awarded is \$781 042.
 - Fourteen per cent.
- (3) Not applicable.

NARROWS BRIDGE DUPLICATION, CYCLEWAY

159. Mr PENDAL to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the \$49 million duplication of the Narrows Bridge and ask -

- (1) Is a cycleway to be incorporated into the design of the bridge?
- (2) If not, will the Government consider a suspended structure between the sections of the Narrows Bridge?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) A dual use path (DUP) catering for pedestrians and cyclists will be provided on the western side of the duplicate Narrows Bridge. This path will link into the existing DUP network to the north and south of the river.
- (2) Not applicable.

POLICE LOCKUPS, PEOPLE UNDER 18 YEARS

162. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Will the Minister provide an estimate of how many young people aged less than 18 years, are/were held in police lock-ups in Western Australia -

- (a) currently;
- (b) in 1996;
- (c) in 1997;
- (d) in 1998; and
- (e) in 1999,

and specify -

- (i) in which locations by region; and
- (ii) the age of the children?

Mr PRINCE replied:

This question was previously asked as question on notice 3217. The following answer was correct as at 27 July 1999, when it was forwarded to the member's Electorate Office.

- (1) (a) 8 on 22 June 1999.
- (b) 4305.
- (c) 4893.
- (d) 5375.
- (e) 2941 (up to and including 2 July 1999).
- (i)-(ii) See paper No 114.

Additional Information: Caution should be taken when interpreting the above totals and attached figures as they are based solely on a head count at each police station and are not specific to the number of individuals in custody. For instance, in cases where juveniles are escorted in custody from one station to another, for court appearances etc, they are recorded as a remand statistic at each respective station.

EYRE HIGHWAY EAST OF NORSEMAN, UPGRADING

169. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the \$50 million allocated by the Federal Government for reconstruction of the Eyre Highway east of Norseman over five years, announced by the former Minister for Transport in his media release of 20 November 1996, and ask -

- (a) how much of this funding has been allocated to date;
- (b) when will the balance be allocated;
- (c) what sections of the Eyre Highway east of Norseman have been upgraded or are under reconstruction to date; and
- (d) what sections will be upgraded by the end of 2001?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) \$33.4 million.
- (b) By 2002/03.
- (c) Fraser Range (completed), Caiguna West 30 kilometres (completed).
- (d) Further 15 kilometres of Caiguna West.

GREAT NORTHERN HIGHWAY THROUGH THE SWAN VALLEY, UPGRADING

170. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the \$17 million allocated by the Federal Government for reconstruction of the Great Northern Highway through the Swan Valley over four years, announced by the former Minister for Transport in his media release of 20 November 1996, and ask -

- (a) how much of this funding has been allocated to date;
- (b) when will the balance be allocated;
- (c) what sections of the Great Northern Highway through the Swan Valley have been upgraded or are under reconstruction to date; and
- (d) what sections will be upgraded by the end of 2001?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) \$7 million.
- (b) By 2000/01.
- (c) Stage one works - Bullsbrook townsite and passing lanes (completed), Bullsbrook to Rutland Road (completed), Roe Highway to Lennard Street (in progress), Warbrook Road passing lane and adjacent reconstruction (under design).
- (d) All of the Stage one works will be completed in 2000/01.

GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY, MIDLAND-LAKES TURNOFF

171. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the \$26 million allocated by the Federal Government for widening the Great Eastern Highway to four lanes between Midland and the Lakes turnoff near Northam over four years, announced by the former Minister for Transport in his media release of 20 November 1996, and ask -

- (a) how much of this funding has been allocated to date;
- (b) when will the balance be allocated;
- (c) what sections of the Great Eastern Highway between Midland and the Lakes turnoff have been widened or are being widened to date; and
- (d) what sections will be widened by the end of 2001?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) \$13.8 million.
- (b) By 2000/01 for the original approval however, additional funds have been provided for Roe Highway to Scott Street and Sawyers Valley to The Lakes turn-off projects and these funds will not be received until 2002/03.
- (c) Sawyers Valley townsite (completed), The Lakes to El Caballo (completed), Mundaring to Sawyers Valley (completed), Roe Highway to Scott Street (in progress), Sawyers Valley to The Lakes (under design).
- (d) Roe Highway to Scott Street is planned to be completed in 2000/01.

TINGLE TREE PRESERVATION

172. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) What was the response of the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) to memo No. 16920 from the then Minister for the Environment, Hon. Peter Foss, dealing with special measures to preserve the tingle tree?
- (2) Will the Minister table this response?
- (3) How has the royalty for tingle changed since the memo?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1)-(2) I seek leave to table the response from the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

(3)	Gross Royalty	
	CALM's Response Rates at 1 July 1995	Current Royalty Rates at 1 January 1999
Premium Grade	\$93.00 per cubic metre	\$104.01 per cubic metre
First Grade Sawlog	\$47.33 per cubic metre	\$52.97 per cubic metre
Second Grade Sawlog	\$35.89 per cubic metre	\$40.18 per cubic metre
Chiplog	\$19.57 per cubic metre	\$22.20 per cubic metre

Yellow Tingle royalty is the same as karri. Whilst the royalty schedules have not differentiated between the two species (tingle is an "X" species on the schedules) the 1995 quoted rates were consistent in being the same as karri.

CONTAMINATED SITES, CLEAN-UP

173. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) What safeguards ensure that previously contaminated sites have been satisfactorily cleaned up prior to construction of roads, buildings etc.?
- (2) What safeguards ensure contaminated material is not moved from site to site?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) generally becomes involved in the management of contaminated sites when there is a change in landuse, such as from industrial/commercial to residential. Pollution incidents, notification from the public and the voluntary submission of environmental site assessments from land owners also act as triggers for DEP's involvement. Where a clean up appears likely to have a significant effect on the environment it may be referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for assessment under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (the "Act"). Anybody can refer an issue for the EPA to decide if it requires assessment. The DEP's Contaminated Sites Branch assesses any reports submitted on contaminated sites and provides comments and/or recommendations regarding the level of contamination and the necessary remediation. In this work the DEP is guided by the public position paper on the "Assessment and management of contaminated land and groundwater in Western Australia, May 1997" (the "Position Paper"). Appropriate

reference is made to current guidelines issued by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council for the assessment and management of contaminated sites. Where remediation is required the DEP provides comment when validation of the remediation has been submitted to ensure that the site is suitable for present or future landuse. Where offsite contamination is evident, the DEP can also instigate investigations and subsequent remediation under the Act by issuing landowners with Pollution Abatement Notices under section 65, which are primarily designed to prevent or abate pollution which is migrating off-site, or a Direction under section 73, which requires immediate action to mitigate pollution (including remediation). It is intended to introduce comprehensive legislation to deal with contaminated sites as outlined in the Position Paper which will provide the DEP with greater powers to initiate investigations and enforce remediation, as well as formalising the triggers by which contaminated sites are identified, determining liability for the contamination and facilitating the exchange of information between stakeholders. Drafting of this legislation has commenced.

- (2) Where the proponent has voluntarily submitted information on the contaminated site for review by the DEP, the DEP requires confirmation of the destination of excavated contaminated material.

ROADS, DISPLAY OF TOURIST ATTRACTION SIGNS

174. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that a number of tourist attractions suffer the disadvantage of not being able to display appropriate signs alongside main roads to advise and guide tourists to the attraction?
- (2) Is the Minister also aware that other States, most notably Queensland, seem to have no difficulty in allowing such signs to be displayed?
- (3) Will the Minister, in conjunction with his Cabinet colleagues, establish an across portfolio committee involving tourism, main roads, local government and conservation and land management to examine and propose recommendations that result in signs which meet the needs of tourism operators, local government, conservation and land management and main roads being allowed?
- (4) If so, when?
- (5) If not, why not?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1)-(2) Appropriate roadside advertising signs and service and tourist signs can be displayed in Western Australia. A sign application process has been developed by Main Roads, the Western Australian Tourism Commission, Local Government and other key stakeholders to meet this need. Western Australia and Queensland have similar signing guidelines on state and national roads.
- (3)-(5) An across portfolio committee to review tourism signing is not considered necessary. Main Roads has developed guidelines for roadside signing in and near the road reserves of state and national roads. These guidelines have been developed and reviewed regularly in consultation with stakeholders to incorporate the best practices of other States and to achieve as much uniformity across Australia as is possible. All applications are considered in a process developed by Main Roads, the Western Australian Tourism Commission and other relevant stakeholders. All tourist signs are referred to the Western Australian Tourism Commission to ensure that the needs of tourism are met. Liaison with Local Government or Department of Conservation and Land Management is sought for those tourist developments under their control. The application and approval process ensures that, where the tourist attraction meets the guidelines, appropriate signing will be allowed. Should the Member have any specific concerns I would be pleased to have them investigated.

TOURIST MAPS, COORDINATION OF PRODUCTION

177. Mr BROWN to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Has the Government given any consideration to consolidating and co-ordinating arrangements under which various departments produce tourist maps?
- (2) Will the Government give consideration to such an initiative?
- (3) If so, when?
- (4) If not, why not?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

Perth Zoo:

- (1) Perth Zoo does not produce a tourist map as such of State localities. It does however, produce a Zoo site map for sale to the public to guide them on their visit. As a result of the very specific and graphical nature of the Zoo map, it does not lend itself to consolidation with other State maps.
- (2)-(4) Not applicable.

Conservation and Land Management:

(1)-(2) Yes.

(3) The Department of Conservation and Land Management produces various tourist maps in partnership or consultation with other Government departments, including the Western Australian Tourism Commission, Trails West and the Department of Land Administration.

(4) Not applicable.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden:

(1) In view of the high visitation of tourists to Kings Park, it is important that a dedicated map of Kings Park and details of its attractions are provided to visitors.

(2) Discussions are held regularly with the WA Tourism Commission and the Perth Attractions Association on joint tourist initiatives to promote Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

(3)-(4) Not applicable.

TOURIST COACHES, LEGISLATION ON DRIVERS AND GUIDES

180. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

(1) Does the Government have under consideration any proposals to introduce legislation and or/regulations which require tourist coach operators to provide a driver and a guide for those tours where a commentary is provided to passengers?

(2) What is the nature of the legislative or regulative change under consideration?

(3) Why are the changes under consideration?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

(1)-(3) Please refer to my response provided to Parliamentary Question Legislative Assembly 181 which was asked on Wednesday, 11 August 1999.

TOURIST COACHES, LEGISLATION ON DRIVERS AND GUIDES

181. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

(1) Does the Government have under consideration any proposals to introduce legislation and or/regulations which require tourist coach operators to provide a driver and a guide for those tours where a commentary is provided to passengers?

(2) What is the nature of the legislative or regulative change under consideration?

(3) Why are the changes under consideration?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

(1)-(3) No.

DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES, MEMBERSHIP

188. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Emergency Services:

(1) How many District Emergency Management Advisory Committees (DEMAC) operate in the State?

(2) Where is each DEMAC located?

(3) How often does each DEMAC meet?

(4) (a) Who is the chair of each DEMAC; and
(b) on what date was the chair of each DEMAC appointed?

(5) Who are the members of each DEMAC?

(6) Which organisation does each member of DEMAC represent?

(7) What position does each DEMAC member hold in their respective organisation?

(8) How long has each member been on DEMAC?

(9) Who is responsible for selecting the Members of each DEMAC?

(10) Who is responsible for appointing the Members of each DEMAC?

(11) What qualifications are required in order to be appointed to DEMAC?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) Ten.
- (2) Kimberley - Broome
Pilbara - Pt Hedland
Meekatharra
Kalgoorlie
Geraldton
Bunbury
Northam
Narrogin
Albany
Metropolitan
- (3) State Emergency Management Advisory Committee (SEMAC) Policy 7 is not prescriptive in terms of how often they are required to meet. However, DEMAC's generally meet at least on a quarterly basis or on an as needed basis during major operations.
- (4) (a) The Chair of DEMAC in country areas is the Police District Officer in their capacity as Emergency Coordinator, or within the metropolitan area the Police Metropolitan Regional Commander.
(b) The relevant officer automatically becomes the DEMAC chair at the time of appointment to the position.
- (5) SEMAC Policy 7 advises that the DEMAC be comprised of the following:

Chair	Police District Officer
Deputy Chair:	Nominated by Chief Executive Officer, Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA)
Executive Officer	FESA District Manager nominated by Chief Executive Officer, FESA
Members	Drawn from agencies which have emergency management responsibilities or special expertise essential to the development of emergency management arrangements. Membership should reflect but not be limited to agencies represented on the State Emergency Management Advisory Committee. DEMAC's may co-opt other persons to be members on the Committee for necessary periods. As a guide SEMAC Policy 7 suggests that membership should be restricted to 12 commensurate with district requirements.
- (6) Organisations currently represented at a State level.
 ** denotes those usually represented at DEMAC level
 Bureau of Meteorology
 Department of Conservation and Land Management **
 Department of Environmental Protection
 Department of Transport**
 Family and Children's Services**
 Fire Services of Western Australia**
 Health Department **
 Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet
 Office of Energy
 St John's Ambulance**
 Telstra**
 Western Australian Municipal Association
 Western Australia Police Service**
 Western Australian State Emergency Service**

 Co-opted Members
 Aboriginal Affairs **
 Agriculture WA **
 Department of Defence
 Department of Minerals and Energy
 Water Corporation**
- (7)-(10) All DEMAC members are nominated by the representative agency. Positions and length of service will vary in each case as it is the position not the person that most agencies nominate.
- (11) Nil. Members of agencies are drawn from those having specific hazard management responsibilities or special expertise.

MAIN ROADS WA, REIMBURSEMENT OF TENDER COSTS

191. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to page 12 of the Main Roads position paper titled "Ten Year Contracting Strategy - Road Maintenance" and ask -

- (a) is the Minister still considering reimbursing tendering costs of up to \$100,000 per unsuccessful tenderer for Main Road's ten year road maintenance contracts; and
- (b) if yes, what does the Minister expect the total bill to be for the eight contracts?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) No. Clause 14 of the Request for Proposals states that no Proponent, whether successful or not, has any entitlement to a payment from the Principal in respect of its Proposal. The successful Proponent will not be paid separately for its Proposal. Where an innovation or initiative is developed specifically for the proposed Contract by an unsuccessful Proponent and is available for use of the Principal, the Principal reserves the right to purchase the innovation or initiative. The maximum value of payment for all innovations or initiatives is \$100 000 in total for each Proponent. The amount that is finally paid to an unsuccessful Proponent will be determined, without negotiation, by the Principal. Each Proponent must state in its Proposal any innovation or initiative which it chooses not to make available for purchase by the Principal.

- (b) Not applicable.

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, MRS HELEN
HARDCASTLE

192. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Has Mrs Helen Hardcastle been engaged as a consultant at King Edward Memorial Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital?
- (2) If the answer to (1) is yes, what are the terms of reference and on what date were they agreed to?
- (3) What was the agreed duration of the consultancy?
- (4) What remuneration will Mrs Hardcastle receive?
- (5) What are Mrs Hardcastle's qualifications?
- (6) When did Mrs Hardcastle commence work on this consultancy?
- (7) When was the consultancy completed?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) No. Mrs Hardcastle has been engaged as a facilitator.
- (2) Mrs Hardcastle was engaged to facilitate discussions and collect information on the future organisational arrangements of executive functions within King Edward Memorial and Princess Margaret Hospitals. The date that this was agreed to was 20 May 1999. Meetings commenced on 3 June 1999.
- (3) 10 to 12 days of facilitation in total, to finish mid-July.
- (4) \$7,250.
- (5) Facilitation experience in the public and private sectors. Mrs Hardcastle also has current health industry knowledge which is of relevance to this process, and is involved with the HDWA in the establishment of clinical standards.
- (6) Facilitation commenced June 1999.
- (7) Facilitation was completed 7 July 1999.

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

193. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Health:

For each of the three Executive Director positions recently abolished at King Edward Memorial Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital, on what specific dates and at what times prior to 12 May 1999 were discussions held between each of the three Executive Director positions and the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Michael Moody, on the possibility of the abolition of their positions and the devolution of their duties to other positions?

Mr DAY replied:

It is intended that the Executive Director positions at King Edward Memorial and Princess Margaret Hospitals will be abolished when the current employment contracts expire. The issue of the Executive structure at King Edward Memorial and Princess Margaret Hospitals was raised on a number of occasions prior to notice being given on 12 May 1999 of the intent to abolish the positions. Individual discussions with the officers concerned did not take place prior to 12 May 1999.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, MR WALKER'S TRIP TO FRANCE

194. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the trip made by Mr I Walker to France between 11 and 18 April 1998 as part of a Department of Transport review of the operations of a French bus company and ask -

- (a) will the Minister confirm that Mr Walker resigned from the Department on 5 June 1998; and
- (b) on what date did Mr Walker formally notify the Department of his intention to resign?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) Mr Ian Walker retired from the Department of Transport on 5 June 1998.
- (b) Mr Walker notified Transport of his intention to retire on 29 May 1998.

ELLE MACPHERSON ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN, PROMOTION OF ALL AREAS OF THE STATE

195. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Has the Elle Macpherson advertising campaign given significant media coverage to the towns -
 - (a) Walpole;
 - (b) Broome;
 - (c) Perth;
 - (d) Rottnest; and
 - (e) Kalgoorlie?
- (2) Is it true that tourism operators in the other parts of the State have to pay substantial amounts of money for advertising in order to try and compete against competitors whose towns are being promoted by the Western Australian Tourism Commission through the Elle Macpherson advertising campaign?
- (3) Does the Government intend to seek the view of the tourism industry on the advertising campaign promoting all areas of the State, particularly from operators in areas not featured on the television advertisements?
- (4) Is the Minister aware that some tourism operators outside the areas advertised in the Elle campaign have not, in their view, obtained a single booking resulting from the campaign?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (1) The Brand WA campaign featuring Elle Macpherson was not designed to promote specific towns but rather focused on a combination of regional and metropolitan based experiences. In some instances, such as Perth, Fremantle, Rottnest and Broome, location names need to be mentioned to heighten the impact of the advertisements. From a marketing perspective, Western Australia offers an incredibly diverse range of products and the philosophy behind this campaign was to focus on unique regional and metropolitan experiences that were appealing to both the national and international markets. The Brand WA campaign is unique inasmuch as Western Australia has never produced a complete series of television commercials that focus on the regional and metropolitan experiences in such a defined manner. To the best of my knowledge, this commitment to promoting this range of experiences in a powerful manner has not been made by any other State in Australia.
- (2) All tourism operators are required to pay to advertise their specific product. The WATC offers opportunities for tourism operators to purchase product tags that are run in conjunction with the Brand WA advertisements during specific periods of the year.
- (3) The tourism industry has been very supportive of the Brand WA advertising concept and this was further highlighted in the recent Partnership 21 workshops that were held throughout the state. The purpose of the workshops was to seek industry input into the development of the next five year strategic plan for the tourism industry. It was very clear during these sessions that the industry supports this activity.
- (4) The purpose of the Brand WA campaign is not to generate bookings for individual operators but rather to build awareness of WA as a holiday destination and increase the likelihood of consumers having a preference to travel to the state. When a campaign was run in Victoria recently, the awareness of WA as a holiday destination hit a high of 19.5% second only to Queensland.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, CONTRACTS OVER \$50 000

208. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Local Government; Disability Services:

- (1) How many contracts of \$50,000 or more (excluding employment contracts) has each department and agency under the Minister's control entered into between 1 April 1999 and 31 May 1999?
- (2) What was the amount of each contract?
- (3) What is the name of each person/entity with whom the contract has been entered into?
- (4) What is the nature of the work or service required by the contract?
- (5) What is the completion date of each contract?

Mr OMODEI replied:

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

- (1)-(2) Three solicitors have been engaged on contract at hourly rates to undertake the Inquiry into the City of Cockburn. It is very difficult to be precise about the final costs.
- (3) Neil Douglas
Matthew Howard
Frank Van Der Kooy
- (4) Professional costs of conducting the Inquiry into the City of Cockburn.
- (5) 29 February 2000.

DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION:

- (1) 2
- (2) (a) \$50,000 and
(b) \$61,500
- (3) (a) Nimrod Computer Services.
(b) Software Plus Pty Ltd.
- (4) (a) Computer Hardware and Software Maintenance.
(b) Conversion of mainframe applications to Personal Computer based systems and Year 2000 compliance.
- (5) (a) 31 May 2004.
(b) 31 August 1999.

KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL COUNCIL

- (1) None.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

METROPOLITAN CEMETERIES BOARD

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

FREMANTLE CEMETERIES BOARD

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, CONTRACTS OVER \$50 000

210. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Works; Services; Youth; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests:

- (1) How many contracts of \$50,000 or more (excluding employment contracts) has each department and agency under the Minister's control entered into between 1 April 1999 and 31 May 1999?
- (2) What was the amount of each contract?
- (3) What is the name of each person/entity with whom the contract has been entered into?
- (4) What is the nature of the work or service required by the contract?
- (5) What is the completion date of each contract?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

Contract and Management Services (CAMS) publishes the contract award details for contracts in excess of \$5,000 on the Government Contracting Information Bulletin Board web site at www.contracting.wa.gov.au. CAMS Tenders Management System and Tenders Registration System reports that the following contracts (other than employment contracts and contracts for less than \$50,000) were awarded between 1 April 1999 and 31 May 1999.

(1)	72 (seventy two).		
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)*
\$250,000.00	BOC Gases Australia Ltd Welding Industries of Australia	Various TAFE Courses Supply and Delivery of Welding Equipment	May-1999
\$59,272.00	Western Welding Services	Hedland College Supply & Delivery of Welding Equipment	June-1999
\$333,882.00	Jaxon Construction Pty Ltd	Casuarina Prison Alterations and Additions to the Health Centre	August-1999
\$119,170.00	WNI Science & Engineering	Provision of environmental impact consultancy services of channel crossing structures at the Maitland Estate (Karratha) for the Department of Resources Development.	December-1999
\$85,134.00	Crothers Construction	Jurien District High School - Repairs to corrosion affected steel work	July-1999
\$50,050.00	NEC Australia Pty Ltd	Dumas House, Level 1 Telephone Services	June-1999
\$92,443.00	Oaklane Projects	Disability Services Commission, 9 The Avenue, Midland Fitout	June-1999
\$57,973.00	Selective Soils	Eastern Goldfields Senior High School Automatic Irrigation of Oval	June-1999
\$142,330.00	Advanced Fencing & Drainage	Eastern Goldfields Regional Prison Install Razor Wire to Roof of Maximum Security Prisoner Accommodation	June-1999

\$253,675.00	Cox Howlett & Bailey Woodland	Central West College of TAFE Manufacturing and Art refurbishment	December-2000
\$2,982,000.00	BGC Construction, a division of Homestyle Pty Ltd	Canning Vale Prison Complex Prison Living Unit - Site B	December-1999
\$765,527.00	Jaxon Construction Pty Ltd	Kimberley College Of TAFE - Kununurra Campus - Alterations & Additions	December-1999
\$937,550.00	Designair Group	Alexander Library Building Replacement of Chilled WaterPlant and Cooling Tower	October-1999
\$5,000,000.00	Aaron Bunch Photography Abacus Research Pty. Ltd. Am Pix Andaluna Pty. Ltd. Asset Marketing Australasia Productions Pty. Ltd. Australian Community Research Banksia Media Bkay Design Advertising and Production Catherine Fitch Catherine Hesse-Swain Cato Partners Pty. Ltd. Chameleon Design Cindy Brennan CLC PR Conquest Advertising Conroy Marketing Associates Cornfield Communication Consultants Pty. Ltd. Corporate Writing Services CT&A Consulting Pty. Ltd. CVA Film and Television David Cohen David Downie Film Productions Definition Design Design Graphic Management Designmine Pty. Ltd. Dessein Graphics Pty. Ltd. Dow Digital Dr Anne Surma Elephant Productions Pty. Ltd. Energy Design Studio Essential Projects Fremantle Freelance Fresco Design and Print Glew Corporate Communication Gump Pty. Ltd. Horizon Public Relations & Marketing Hyde Park Media Impact Media Insight Research Australia Pty. Ltd. Interim HR Solutions Pty. Ltd. Jargon Media Jay PR Pty. Ltd. Jenkin Advertising and Marketing Karin Godecke Design Kea Group Ken D. Ferguson and Associates Keystrokes Kim Douglas Writing Services Krismaar Design Linkletters Live Wire Public Relations Pty. Ltd. Location Equipment Pty. Ltd. Margaret Roberts Corporate Strategy Max and Co Australia Pty. Ltd. Moore International Marketing Pty. Ltd. Newscomm Pty. Ltd. Panorama Media (in Joint Venture with Jennifer Heron - Freelance) Patti-Ann Keegan Pauline Yarwood Peter Ellery and Associates Pty. Ltd. Phoenix Communications Photoplay Australia Pty. Ltd. Plum Studio Ray Bird and associates RCM Visuals Research Solutions	Whole of Government Contract Public Relations Marketing and Marketing Communications Services. Suppliers to be included under Contract 110697 - Provision of Public Relations, Marketing and Marketing Communications to the Western Australian Government	April-2003

RIVAL - The Ideas Company
 RT Films Pty. Ltd.
 RW Gray and Associates
 Sanas Management Service Pty. Ltd.
 SarJan Consultancies
 Say It - Communications and Design
 Smart Pants Film and Distribution
 SNTV - Sport and News Television
 Splash Writing and Design
 Sway Communication
 The Boshe Group
 The Creative Express
 The Curiosity Company
 The Martini Group
 TM Typographics
 Touchstone Colour Pty. Ltd.
 Ward Holt Pty. Ltd.
 Ward the Wordsmith
 William Crabb Photographer

\$366,000.00	Bert Meuzelaar Homes	Albany Regional Prison - Kitchen upgrade	October-1999
\$59,956.00	DJ McGinty & Co	Kalgoorlie Mental Health Services - Viskovich House Office Fitout	June-1999
\$227,596.00	Central Fire Services	Albany Regional Hospital Fire Services Upgrade	August-1999
\$2,727,400.00	Arrow Holdings Pty Ltd	Early Childhood Program 2000 - Supply of 40 Transportable Pre-Primary Units - Contract Extension	September-1999
\$5,396,862.00	Geraldton Building Co Pty Ltd	Geraldton District Police Complex Construction of a New Two Storey Building	June-1999
\$78,714,678.00	Corrections Corporation of Australia & Transfield Pty Ltd	Wooroloo Prison South Procurement of a new 750 bed male medium security prison	October-2000
\$100,000.00	Sands Print Group Ltd	Printing and Distribution of Curriculum Framework Support Documents Department of Curriculum Council	December-1999
\$95,645.00	BKR Building	Exmouth Hospital - Nurses Quarters Cyclone Vance Building and Painting Works	June-1999
\$105,130.00	BKR Building	Exmouth Hospital Staff Housing Cyclone Vance Building Damage	June-1999
\$96,468.00	Garbutt Drainage	Shenton College Forward Works Sewer Extension	May-1999
\$124,511.00	Water Corporation	Technology Park Bentley Preparation of the Site for Expansion	March-1999
\$204,000.00	Topline Partitions & Interiors	North Fremantle Police Station and District Office Fitout & Alterations	July-1999
\$243,639.00	Dalcon Constructions Pty Ltd	Girrawheen Primary School New Library Resource Centre - Construction	August-1999
\$168,397.00	Transfield	Hedland and Pundulmurra Colleges Provision of Cleaning Services	April-2004
\$2,461,262.00	Stewart & Heaton Clothing Co P/L	Ministry of Justice Provision of Prison Officer Uniform Logistics Service	April-2004
\$331,870.00	Platinum Technology Solutions	Ministry of Fair Trading Provision of Information Systems for the Real Estate Business Unit	March-2000
\$65,000.00	Taylor Robinson Pty Ltd	Maddington Senior High School - Middle School Refurbishment	January-2000
\$600,000.00	Bruno Zimmerman Colour Photographic Laboratories Kevron Aerial Surveys Pty Ltd	Photographic Services for the Department of Land Administration for a two (2) year period with an option to extend for a further one (1) year	May-2002
\$910,806.00	Centerline Constructions	Parkerville Primary School Alterations and Additions	October-1999
\$111,561.00	QVS Contracting Pty Ltd	Perth - 197 St George's Terrace, Perth Office of Gas Access Regulation - Establish New Offices - Fitout	June-1999
\$143,848.00	Scope Interiors (1997) Pty Ltd	Koolinda House - North Fremantle - Fisheries Operations Centre Fitout	June-1999

\$807,700.00	QSP Financial Information Systems	Office of Racing, Gaming and Liquor Financial Management Information Systems	May-2009
\$81,035.00	Pretzel Logic Pty Ltd	Department of Commerce and Trade Telecentre Extranet	May-2002
\$51,487.00	Jaxon Construction	Broome - Aboriginal Affairs Department - New Office Fitout	September-1999
\$144,249.00	Kahuna Developments	Fisheries WA Construction of Jetty and Toilet Block at the Abrolhos Island	July-1999
\$187,000.00	HIH Construction	Roebourne Sobering Up Shelter-Building Extension & Refurbishment	September-1999
\$242,820.17	Paterson's Landscaping	South Hedland Trumpet Way Redevelopment	January-2000
\$80,000.00	HRM Consulting Pty Ltd	Services to assist with a human resource management performance and benchmarking study - for the Workforce Analysis & Communications Branch - Public Sector Management Division	May-2001
\$600,000.00	Ecowise Environmental Ltd Australian Environmental Laboratories Australian Government Analytical Laboratories	Waters and Rivers Commission Provision of water and organic Analytical Services	May-2002
\$177,943.00	Direct Engineering Services Pty Ltd	Hedland College Air Conditioning Refurbishment	July-1999
\$71,200.00	Carlton Contracting	Peel Regional Campus Site Clearance and Miscellaneous Works	July-1999
\$630,248.00	Advanteering Civil Engineers	Shenton College Forward Works	July-1999
\$1,615,000.00	Geo A. Esslemont & Son	Carine Senior High School New Performing Arts and Upgrade	November-1999
\$122,682.50	Heaton Enterprises Pty Ltd	South Metropolitan College of TAFE Provision of Cleaning Services to South Terrace Annex	May-2004
\$280,000.00	Thornton Building Co. Pty Ltd	Denmark District Hospital Emergency Department Redevelopment	September-1999
\$517,613.00	Brian & Trevor Smith Constructions	Boyanup Community House - Construction	September-1999
\$306,700.00	Oracle Corporation	Ministry of Fair Trading Design, Development & Implementation of a Bond Administration	December-1999
\$409,000.00	HIH Design & Construction	Osborne Park Hospital, Mental Health Clinic Alterations and Additions	November-1999
\$80,100.00	Hydro-Plan	Education Dept - Automatic Reticulation Stage 2 Sub-Consultancy Design	October-1999
\$114,700.00	Sasha Ivanovich and Associates Architects	East Eaton Primary School New School	June-2000
\$303,788.00	Best Constructions Pty Ltd	Dardanup Primary School Covered Assembly	January-2000
\$97,522.70	Kayedar Facilities Management	Roebourne Regional Prison - Perimeter fence security upgrade	July-1999
\$219,940.00	Archer Builders	Derby District High School Covered Assembly Area	June-1999
\$178,000.00	Greg Curnow Constructions	Collie Police Station Additions and Alterations	July-1999
\$55,595.00	Dawn Express Partitioning Pty Ltd	Parliamentary Electorate Office, Member for Nedlands - Hon R Court MLA Fitout - Establish New Office	June-1999
\$2,149,000.00	BGC Construction, a division of Homestyle Pty Ltd	Rockingham Police Station Construction	December-1999
\$4,199,467.00	Devaugh Pty Ltd	Boddington District High School Replacement	February-2000

\$49,956.63	Geraldton Building Co Pty Ltd	Greenough Regional Prison - Installation of Television to Security Cells	July-1999
\$50,000.00	A.A.C Process Servers & A.A.C Investigators Repcol Commercial Investigators (WA) Pty Ltd	Legal Aid Commission Provision of Process Server Services in the Metro Area	June-2001
\$56,370.00	Alljay Pty Ltd	Camp Kurli Murri Site Clean Up	July-1999
\$139,300.00	Protection Engineering Pty Ltd	Kimberley Health Service - Broome, Derby & Fitzroy Crossing Hospitals - Fire Services Upgrade 1999	September-1999
\$454,282.00	Austindo (WA) Pty Ltd	The Department of Contract and Management Services The Supply and Installation of a Decentralised Work Management System	November-1999
\$375,000.00	Outcare Inc	The Ministry of Justice - Provision of support services to offenders, newly released offenders and their families in the Metropolitan Area	May-2002
\$293,000.00	Sizer Builders	Augusta Primary School Relocated Covered Area, New Canteen & Stores	September-1999
\$121,767.00	Selective Soils	Eucla Checkpoint and Staff Quarters Installation of Rain Water Tanks, Automatic Irrigation and Aerated Waste Water Treatment System	July-1999
\$272,460.00	KBE Contracting Pty Ltd	Wagin Hospital Kitchen Upgrade	October-1999
\$86,000.00	Haefeli-Lysnar Survey Equipment	Central Metropolitan College of TAFE - Supply of Eight (8) Electronic Total Workstations	June-1999
\$70,466.00	A-Z Commercial Steel Constructions	Denmark Agricultural College Design & Construct Machinery Shed & Grain Shed	August-1999

* May include warranty periods, exercisable contract extensions and defects liability periods

OFFICE OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

- (1) One.
- (2) \$150,000.
- (3) Sandra Devahasdin Public Relations and Promotions.
- (4) Event Co-ordinator for the Office of Youth Affairs' Cadets WA Challenge.
- (5) October 1999.

STATE SUPPLY COMMISSION

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

OFFICE OF CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

- (1) Nil.
- (2)-(5) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, CONTRACTS OVER \$50 000

214. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) How many contracts of \$50,000 or more (excluding employment contracts) has each department and agency under the Minister's control entered into between 1 April 1999 and 31 May 1999?
- (2) What was the amount of each contract?
- (3) What is the name of each person/entity with whom the contract has been entered into?
- (4) What is the nature of the work or service required by the contract?
- (5) What is the completion date of each contract?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN TOURISM COMMISSION

- (1) There are two contracts over \$50,000 that fall into this time frame - Hopman Cup and Rosanne Dowland.
- (2) In regard to the Hopman Cup, this information is commercial in confidence. The other party, Paul McNamee, is currently unavailable in regard to seeking his permission to release the information. Further, to release this information means that event agencies in other States will be able to use the information in competing for this event and others.

Rosanne Dowland - \$10,000 royalty per year, plus 10% commission on agreed wholesale selling price - or - plus 15% commission on agreed retail selling price.

- (3) Both Paul McNamee and Paul McNamee Enterprises Pty Ltd
Dowland Holdings Pty Ltd trading as Rosanne Dowland Design
- (4) Partnership agreement for the staging of the 1999, 2000 and 2001 Hyundai Hopman Cup Tennis Tournament. Commercial Licence agreement to use Rally Australia identification for commercial application for endorsed products.
- (5) On the completion of the 2001 Hyundai Hopman Cup
Rosanne Dowland - 21 April 2002

ROTTNEST ISLAND AUTHORITY

- (1) One
- (2) The contract is for services provided but may exceed \$50 000.
- (3) Minter Ellison, Lawyers.
- (4) Provision of legal services.
- (5) 11 May 2000

ROADWORKS, BINDI BINDI-TOODYAY ROAD AND DEWARS POOL ROAD

216. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

In relation to the roadworks at the junction of the Bindi Bindi Toodyay Road and Dewar's Pool Road, Toodyay -

- (a) what was the proposed date of completion of these roadworks;
- (b) what is the estimated date of completion of these roadworks; and
- (c) what is the estimated total cost of the delay?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) 23 April 1999.
- (b) 19 May 1999.
- (c) Delay was caused by a significant increase in rock excavation and time lost by wet weather. Total additional cost was \$125 000.

ROADWORKS, SERVETUS STREET, SWANBOURNE

217. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What was the initial estimated date of completion of the Servetus Street, Swanbourne, roadworks?
- (2) What was the actual date of completion of these roadworks?
- (3) What was the total cost of the delay?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) 13 December 1998.
- (2) 25 June 1999, however the road was opened to traffic in March 1999.
- (3) Variations totalling approximately \$210 000 were approved due to delays caused by a number of factors including:
 - Problems with service relocations;
 - Inclement weather; and
 - Design and survey problems.

RADAR GUNS, ADVICE OF SPEED TO MOTORIST

218. Mr PENDAL to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Can a vehicle driver, subjected to radar gun monitoring, be advised of the speed level recorded for his/her vehicle?
- (2) If the answer to (1) above is no, under what authority is such information prohibited to a driver?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) Police Officers are instructed, whenever it is reasonably possible, to show the reading on a hand held radar speed detection device to an offending motorist. However, there are occasions where this is not always possible due to equipment operating limitations, for example, where a camera is re-set to monitor speeds of other vehicles. It should be noted that hand held radar speed detection devices are different to image recording speed detection devices, such as speed cameras, in that speed cameras are designed to take a photograph of an offending vehicle,

with the photograph being used as evidence. With hand held radar speed detection devices, the fact that the apprehending officer witnessed the offence is the only evidence required.

- (2) Not applicable.

MR BRUCE SUTHERLAND, PROJECT DIRECTOR, JERVOISE BAY

224. Mr BROWN to the Premier:

In relation to the circumstances surrounding the appointment of Mr Bruce Sutherland to the position of Project Director of Jervoise Bay -

- (a) will the Premier confirm that the Public Sector Standards Commissioner (PSSC) appointed an independent inquirer to investigate the issue;
- (b) will the Premier table the advice received by the PSSC from the Crown Solicitors Office which led to the PSSC subsequently dropping the inquiry; and
- (c) if no to part (b), why not?

Mr COURT replied:

- (a) Yes, an independent inquirer was appointed. The Department of Commerce and Trade declined to respond to his inquiry on the grounds that the Commissioner for Public Sector Standards has no jurisdiction to investigate the matter. The Department's response was based on the fact that the contract for service was involved and no employer/employee relationship was created. The Commissioner sought legal opinions from both the Crown Solicitor and independent barrister, Mr Ken Pettit. Both opinions confirmed that there was no employer/employee relationship resulting in uncertainty as to the Commissioner's jurisdiction. The Commissioner informed me about this and I understand also met with the Leader of the Opposition to brief him.
- (b)-(c) The Commissioner is an independent statutory officer. The legal advice was to him, not to me. I cannot demand a copy. I am informed by the Commissioner that, in accordance with long-standing practice and the exemption provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, he will not table the two legal opinions.

COMMERCE AND TRADE, REGULAR FEATURE ON GOODS AND SERVICES PURCHASED OVERSEAS OR INTERSTATE

235. Mr BROWN to the Minister Services:

In relation to an election commitment he made to run a regular feature which highlights goods and services purchased by the Government from overseas and interstate suppliers -

- (a) will the Minister indicate in which "prominent and widely read newspaper" this "regular" feature appears;
- (b) will the Minister then direct our attention to the pages where this "regular" feature is contained;
- (c) could the Minister inform the House on how many occasions this "regular" feature has been run; and
- (d) what feedback has the Minister received from local businesses on the value of this "regular" feature?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

- (a) Technology advances that have provided an alternative medium to manage the large volume of information available to suppliers have superseded the concept of establishing a regular newspaper feature. The Government Contracting Information Bulletin Board ("Bulletin Board") has been designed to provide extensive information on contracts that are being advertised for tender or have been awarded. Commencing 31 March 1999 all government agencies have been publishing contract awards over \$20,000 on the Bulletin Board, resulting in growth of information captured in this environment. This information shows the title and description/scope of the contract, closing date, name of the supplier awarded the contract and the number of tender submissions received. The following is a sample of some of the categories of the 1,250 contract awards (includes goods, services and works contracts) listed on the Bulletin Board as at 28 July, 1999:

Business	140
Cleaning and Gardening	65
Education and Training	56
Finance and Insurance	34
Food and Beverage	8
Furniture, Furnishings and Domestic Appliances	13
Information Technology	117
Legal	12
Machinery and Equipment	51
Property Management and Maintenance	296

Information presented in this form ensures all industries are able to identify business opportunities through historic information on Government buying. In addition to this, industry has had briefing sessions to alert business to the way in which this information can be used. These have been offered in the metropolitan area and in 11 of the 14

CAMS country locations. Adopting this technology Government is able to provide detailed information across all contracting well beyond the capacity of a newspaper column, however this medium has also been used. Government has, through Contract and Management Services, a regular Editorial in each Saturday's copy of the *West Australian* newspaper titled "*Government Tenders*". This editorial is used to inform industry of up and coming tendering opportunities as well as information to assist suppliers understand the way in which tendering is conducted. This regular feature is a very prominent method of alerting industry to new business for Western Australians. To ensure a complete overview of opportunities for suppliers, Government has recently published '*Who Buys What*' which is the result of an annual survey that outlines the purchasing activity of some 107 Government agencies. This document, together with the Bulletin Board, provides an overview and detail of WA Government commodities purchased from local, overseas or eastern states firms. This information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and enables WA suppliers to modify their marketing strategies and target these particular purchases. The initial feedback from industry in response to the above initiatives has been extremely positive. CAMS and the SSC will continue to work with the business sector to refine and enhance the Bulletin Board and the '*Who Buys What*' publication.

(b)-(d) Not applicable.

DIALYSIS UNIT, ROCKINGHAM-KWINANA

237. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the lack of a Kidney Dialysis Unit in the Rockingham Kwinana area and ask -

- (a) why does the Rockingham Kwinana area not have a Renal Dialysis Unit;
- (b) when will a Renal Dialysis Unit be established in the Rockingham Kwinana area;
- (c) if no dialysis unit is planned to be established why not;
- (d) is it the case that dialysis units are in place at Royal Perth, Charles Gardiner and Shenton Park, Kalgoorlie, Geraldton, Joondalup, Armadale, Mandurah, Bunbury, Port Hedland, Broome and Swan District Hospitals;
- (e) if not which of these hospitals do not have such a facility and when will they receive them;
- (f) how many patients are there in the Rockingham Kwinana area currently undergoing dialysis;
- (g) how many patients in the Mandurah area are currently undergoing dialysis;
- (h) how many patients in the Joondalup area are currently undergoing dialysis;
- (i) how many patients in the Armadale area are currently undergoing dialysis;
- (j) has the government identified a site for a dialysis unit in Rockingham, and
- (k) if not why not?

Mr DAY replied:

- (a) The Rockingham Kwinana area has not been identified as a high priority area for a satellite renal unit development due to the close proximity of an in-centre service at Fremantle Hospital and Health Service and a satellite service at Peel Health Campus. In addition, the proportionately low patient population residing in the Rockingham Kwinana area does not justify the establishment of a new facility.
- (b) There are no immediate plans to establish a satellite renal unit in the Rockingham Kwinana area.
- (c) The establishment of new satellite renal units is based on an analysis of patient populations and proximity to existing services. Patients residing in Rockingham Kwinana currently represent only 12 per cent of the south metropolitan patient population. This proportion will continue to be monitored. Should the Rockingham Kwinana patient population increase substantially then consideration will be given to establishing a satellite renal unit in Rockingham.
- (d) Tertiary level in-centre renal services are currently provided at Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and Fremantle Hospital and Health Service. Satellite renal services are provided at Royal Perth Hospital-Shenton Park Campus, Armadale Health Service, Joondalup Health Campus, Peel Health Campus, Geraldton Health Service and Kalgoorlie Health Service.
- (e) In 1999/00 satellite services will be established at Bunbury Health Campus. Plans are also under way to establish satellite services in the Swan Districts and South Metropolitan Health Localities and Port Hedland and Broome.
- (f) There are 6 out of 50 patients currently requiring haemodialysis residing in the Rockingham Kwinana area.
- (g) Peel Health Campus is currently dialysing 20 patients.
- (h) Joondalup Health Campus is currently dialysing 27 patients.
- (i) Armadale Health Service is currently dialysing 25 patients.
- (j) The Government has not identified a site for establishing a satellite renal unit in Rockingham.

- (k) The Rockingham Kwinana area has not been identified as a high priority area for satellite renal unit developed due to the close proximity of an in-centre service at Fremantle Hospital and Health Service and a satellite service at Peel Health Campus.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

239. Mr BROWN to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr COURT replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

241. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr PRINCE replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

244. Mr BROWN to the Minister for the Environment; Labour Relations:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

247. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Lands; Fair Trading; Parliamentary and Electoral Affairs:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr SHAVE replied:

On July 7 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In

addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

248. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Housing; Aboriginal Affairs; Water Resources:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Dr HAMES replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

249. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Local Government; Disability Services:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr OMODEI replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

250. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Health:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr DAY replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

251. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr COURT replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in

delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

252. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Works; Services; Youth; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr BOARD replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

253. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr COWAN replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

254. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr BARNETT replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

255. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Police; Emergency Services:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr PRINCE replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft

policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

257. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

258. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

See answer to Question on Notice No. 254.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

259. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

On July 7 1999 a draft Regional Development Policy for Western Australia was released for public comment. The draft policy includes strategies to ensure equitable access to an appropriate range and mix of services across the regions. The draft policy will require government agencies to include as part of their reporting requirements details of their achievements in delivering services to regional customers. This reporting would be consolidated under the Government's Customer Focus Policy. In addition, the draft policy suggests the development of a State of the Regions report that would include information on all aspects of regional living including levels of service delivery, economic performance, demographic details and quality of life measures. The draft policy is open for public comment until 3 September 1999. Implementation of these initiatives will meet the Government's commitment to monitoring the level of service delivery to regional Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, REGIONAL ACCESS PLANS

260. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

In relation to the Government's election commitment that all Government agencies will develop and publish an affirmative action program (the Regional Access Equity Plan) to improve delivery of services to regional Western Australia will the Minister table the Regional Access Plans that have been published by agencies for which they are responsible?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

See answer to Question on Notice No. 254.

ROADS, PATTERSON ROAD-FLINDERS LANE-READ STREET, ROCKINGHAM

261. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the intersection at Patterson Road and Flinders Lane and Read Street in Rockingham and ask -

- (a) will the Government be introducing filtering arrows on this corner considering the fact that it is dangerous and there has been a fatality at this intersection;
- (b) if not, why not;
- (c) does the Government recognise that this intersection is dangerous; and
- (d) when will filter arrows be installed?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a)-(d) The City of Rockingham submitted a request for funding for the construction of a roundabout at this intersection under the Federal Black Spot Program. The project was recently approved under this Program and funding is being provided in the current financial year for construction of the roundabout.

ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS BELLS

263. Ms McHALE to the Premier:

I refer to the St Martin in the Fields Bells, gifted to Western Australia by the City of London and ask -

- (a) are the bells of working order;
- (b) how many bells comprise the total peal of bells;
- (c) what professional assessment exists to determine whether they will be tuned;
- (d) when were they last tuned; and
- (e) are they in tune currently?

Mr COURT replied:

This question was previously asked as question on notice 3342. The following answer was correct as at 6 August 1999, when it was forwarded to your Electorate Office.

- (a) Yes.
- (b) 18.
- (c)-(e) The original 12 bells were totally refitted and retuned by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in London during 1987-88. The six new bells were also cast by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry and were fitted and tuned in 1988 and 1998. The same tools that were used to cast the 12 bells in 1725 were used to cast and tune the new bells.

PYRTON LAND, SACRED SITE

265. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

- (1) Did the Chief Executive Officer of the Aboriginal Affairs Department write to a Ms Lynda Nutter on 15 June 1999 confirming that the land at Pyrtton is a reported Aboriginal site?
- (2) Is the land in question a recognised sacred site?
- (3) If not, why not?

Dr HAMES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(3) The Pyrtton land is portion of Aboriginal site 3840 (formerly S01997). Site 3840 has been determined to be a site by the Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee under section 5(a) and (b) of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and evaluated as being of significance under section 39(2)(a), (b) and (c). Site 3840 is a historical camping site and has archaeological and ethnographic components.

BIODIGESTION FACILITIES

267. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) At what sites have biodigestion facilities been developed as an alternative to landfill waste?
- (2) At what sites are such facilities proposed or planned for the future?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Until recently, an anaerobic biodigestion facility processed the organic component of sorted municipal waste at the waste depot operated by the Atlas Group Pty Ltd on Lot 1 Alexander Drive, Noranda.
- (2) A regional resource recovery facility is currently proposed for Canning Vale which incorporates aerobic biodigestion.

BINDER BINDER COMMUNITY, HEALTH CLINIC FACILITIES

269. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that Bindi Bindi Aboriginal Community is serviced by the Gascoyne Health Service for their medical needs?
- (2) If yes, has the Gascoyne Health Service requested that Bindi Bindi upgrade their clinic facilities?
- (3) If the answer to (2) above is yes -
 - (a) why is the upgrade necessary; and
 - (b) who is to fund the upgrade?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Yes. The Bindi Bindi Aboriginal Community is serviced by the Gascoyne Health Service for their medical needs.
- (2) For many years people from Bindi Bindi have been able to access hospital and community health services provided by the Onslow Health Service which is part of the Gascoyne Health Service. In more recent times in an effort to improve access for the Bindi Bindi people, it was decided, after discussion with the Community Manager, Mr Alan Greenwood, and representatives of the Health Service to provide a visiting doctor for a weekly clinic inside the Bindi Bindi Community. One of the visiting doctors did request that the Bindi Bindi Community upgrade this facility to improve privacy, to repair airconditioning and to provide a toilet so that the patients could give body fluid samples. The General Manager has been involved in discussions with the Community Manager, Mr Greenwood and has provided some of the minor repairs to improve privacy and a surplus airconditioner to provide a pleasant environment for both patients and doctor.
- (3)
 - (a) The upgrade was necessary to provide a reasonably comfortable environment and privacy for patients and the doctor.
 - (b) The Gascoyne Health Service, through its Maintenance staff, has undertaken minor repairs at the facility and replaced the airconditioner. Originally a new toilet was requested but the Health Service Manager and Bindi Bindi Manager, Mr Greenwood have agreed to use existing toilets in a nearby training facility once the community has repaired them. The Bindi Bindi Community has also completed some minor repairs. It is interesting to note that this service was introduced at the request of the Bindi Bindi Community and the Roebourne AMS to improve access to medical services and has been provided largely from within existing resources. The Roebourne AMS has been involved in these discussions and is enthusiastic in its support of this new service rather than try to deliver a service from Roebourne, 380Km distant. This extension of access to medical services is a fine example of cooperation between Government and Aboriginal Health Services and Communities to rationalise the use of health resources to provide a better, more accessible service.

ATLAS WASTE TREATMENT PLANT, NORANDA, GRANTS

273. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) How many grants have been made from the Waste Management and Recycling Fund to any project associated with the Atlas company or the Atlas Secondary Waste Treatment Plant situated in Noranda?
- (2) For any such grant, what was -
 - (a) the date on which the grant was made;
 - (b) the total value of the grant; and
 - (c) the stated purpose or objectives to be achieved by such a grant?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) One. Following a recommendation from the Advisory Council on Waste Management, a grant was approved to the City of Stirling in conjunction with the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council and Murdoch University to assist with the development of a scientific methodology for the assessment of the potential environmental impact of landfilled non-inert wastes and the development of a simple test for putrescibility. The research will be undertaken utilising material from the Atlas Secondary Waste Treatment Plant.
- (2)
 - (a) The grant was approved on 29 June 1999.
 - (b) \$86 300.
 - (c) To develop a simple scientific test that will allow the pollution potential of any non-inert waste to be measured. The results will then be used for determining to what class of landfill site the waste can be disposed. This is an important project because several councils are participating in, or planning to invest in secondary waste treatment plants. This research will allow the residue of waste processing plants to be assessed in an objective, scientific manner regarding their suitability for disposal to landfill.

TOURISM, REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

278. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

In the 1999-2000 state budget, what amount has been allocated to the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund in -

- (a) 1999-2000 financial year;
- (b) the forward estimates for the years -
 - (i) 2000-2001;
 - (ii) 2001-2002; and
 - (iii) 2002-2003
 financial years?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

Assuming the question relates to the Western Australian Tourism Commission's Tourism Development Fund which has been in place since 1996/97, the amount allocated is -

- (a) \$1 million.
- (b) (i) 2000-2001 - \$2 million.
(ii)-(iii) I will be seeking to continue this worthwhile funding program. However, no firm budget decisions have been made at this stage regarding 2001-2002 and beyond.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANTS PROGRAM

280. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

In the 1999-2000 state budget, what amount has been allocated to the Community Facilities Grants Program in -

- (a) 1999-2000 financial year; and
- (b) the forward estimates for the years -
 - (i) 2000-2001;
 - (ii) 2001-2002; and
 - (iii) 2002-2003
 financial years?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (a) \$1,000,000.
- (b) (i) \$1,000,000.
(ii)-(iii) Nil.

TOURISM, WINE TOURISM INITIATIVES IN REGIONAL AREAS

282. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Since 1 January 1997 what has the Government done to develop wine tourism initiatives in regional areas?
- (2) How much was allocated to each initiative?
- (3) What new initiatives does the Government intend to take in the 1999-2000 financial year?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (1)-(2) The WATC helped to develop and coordinate aspects of the inaugural Wine Tourism Conference which was held in Margaret River in 1998 and contributed \$20,000 in sponsorship for the event. The WATC was also heavily involved in WA's attendance at "Wine Australia", held in Melbourne in October 1998. Support included display and promotional advice, assistance with media, and production and printing of 10,000 catalogues of all WA wineries attending the event plus 15,000 copies of a 12 page motivational brochure, "Western Australia". The WATC's financial contribution was just over \$34,000, which included a cash contribution of \$10,000. The International Sales and Marketing Division produced a wine brochure in 1997 for distribution in the UK market. The brochure is no longer in production, however a more comprehensive version combining wine tourism product with the motivational pages from the "Wine Touring Guide" produced for 1998 Wine Australia is under consideration for 2000/2001. The WATC and WA industry supported a visit to Western Australia by Japanese publication *Mapple Guide Australia* in December 1998. *Mapple Guide Australia* is a guidebook comprising 148 pages of information on touring in Australia and has a production run of 400,000. The WATC, together with the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC), supported this publication's visit in order to secure a 16 page wine-touring supplement within this guidebook. A further 4000 run-ons were produced for exclusive use by the WATC and SATC (2000 each). The wine brochure was and is currently being distributed to the travel trade via WATC Japan's mailing list, retail training seminars, trade shows, general functions, and in response to direct enquiries.

The travel trade will also be made aware of the publications' existence via an advertorial piece in *Travel Journal* - the leading travel trade publication in Japan. Guidebooks will be distributed to consumers at appropriate shopping centre promotions, consumer travel shows, and via the Australian Tourist Commission's (ATC's) "Aussie Helpline". Japanese media visiting Western Australia and covering wine tourism will also be provided with guidebooks for reference. Cost to WATC - \$25,000. The WATC is also working with the Swan Valley Tourism Council and Japan's largest tour operator, JTB, on an exciting and unique concept to promote wine tourism to the Valley. Discussions at this stage are confidential and details will not be finalised until October. In addition, the WATC's International Media and Trade Awareness Program (familiarisations) provide media and trade the opportunity to sample Western Australia. The Program's objectives are to generate favourable publicity of Western Australia as a tourism destination and to enhance the product knowledge and motivation of the retail trade in selling Western Australian tourism product. The Swan Valley and the South West are particularly noted for their strong emphasis on wine tourism. The International Media and Trade Awareness Program has incorporated these regions in approximately 95 of their familiarisations since January 1997. An example of the success of the Media and Trade Awareness Program is the two-page coverage provided in the feature article 'Taste of Paradise' in the prestigious Red or White Magazine. Wine tourism and wine producing areas are also promoted through text and imagery in WATC publications, such as:

Perth and Fremantle guide (distributed nationally and internationally)
Discover Western Australia (distributed internationally)

The WATC has also produced a television commercial for use in WA and the Eastern States that promotes WA as a wine touring destination.

- (3) An International Wine Tourism Conference and Expo is currently being planned for the year 2001. A working party had been formed which consisted of a number of key players in the wine tourism industry and representatives from the WATC. Its broad objectives are as follows:

Elevate the status of Western Australia as a wine tourism region internationally.
Create a sustainable, icon event for uncovering WA's wine tourism opportunities.
The South West Development Commission has granted \$10,000 to the project to formulate a database to target potential participants in the Conference and exhibitors for the Expo.
Meet the demand for a quality international wine tourism forum. Create an event which contributes significant long-term economic impacts for Western Australia.
Promote wine tourism in this State as a unique tourism product.

The South West Development Commission has granted \$10,000 to the project to formulate a database to target potential participants in the Conference and exhibitors for the Expo. EventsCorp has provided extensive advice and support to the group. They have agreed to extend this input by providing a part-time resource who would provide considerable expertise and conference experience to get the event "up and running".

PRISON PROGRAMS

285. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Does the Ministry of Justice provide programs for prisoners which are designed to -
- (a) reduce the recidivism rate; or
 - (b) assist prisoners deal with a behavioural difficulty; or
 - (c) acquire skills or knowledge to assist them lead a more meaningful life once released from prison?
- (2) What programs are conducted by the Ministry (please provide a list)?
- (3) Do prisoners volunteer to undertake such programs?
- (4) All other things being equal, do prisoners who undertake programs tend to be released at their earliest eligible release date?
- (5) Is it true that prisoners who elect not to undertake certain programs have their release from prison delayed as compared to prisoners who volunteer and undertake such programs?
- (6) Does the Ministry of Justice have a waiting list for prisoners who have volunteered to go on such programs?
- (7) What is the longest period of time a prisoner has been kept waiting to be placed on a program?
- (8) Is it true that limited places on programs have resulted in prisoners remaining in prison for a longer period and thus adding to the problem of overcrowding?
- (9) If not, why not?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply.

- (1) (a)-(c) Yes.
- (2) The programs conducted by the Ministry of Justice appear as follows:

SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAMS OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAMS
Intensive Sex Offender Treatment Program
Pre-release Sex Offender program

VIOLENT OFFENDER PROGRAMS VIOLENT OFFENDER PROGRAMS

Violent Offender Treatment Program
Skills Training for Aggression Control

SUBSTANCE USE PROGRAMS
Remand prisoner programs
Individual counselling
Group workshops including 5 day programs
Northern Aboriginal Program
Roebourne Substance Use 2 day program
Pre-release Prison to Parole Program
Women's groups

EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

Adult Basic Education - literacy and numeracy
Indigenous Education
Women's issues
Traineeships - vocational
Certificates courses in:-

Preparation for Employment
Art
Recreation
Hospitality
Management
Information Technology
Carpentry, Auto Mechanics
Metals, Engineering
Horticulture
Aquaculture
Human Services

Post compulsory Years 11 and 12
External University Studies
Pro-social and Lifeskills Education
Pre-Release
Driver Education and Training

- (3) Prisoners opt to participate in current programs. However in some instances the Parole Board is unlikely to release a prisoner unless he/she has completed a program designed to reduce the likelihood of re-offending.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) The Parole Board may choose not to release offenders who have not taken active steps to reduce their likelihood of re-offending.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) It is not possible to answer this question as there are different criteria for program participation that in some instances takes into account sentence length and release dates. An offender with for example a 15 year sentence may not participate in a particular program for 12 years but may be waitlisted at the start of the sentence to do the program.
- (8) There have been instances where prisoners have not been able to complete programs prior to their earliest release date.
- (9) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, CLOTHING

288. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Works:

- (1) Has the Department of Contract and Management Services (CAMS) investigated matters drawn to their attention by the Member for Bassendean concerning a clothing contract awarded by the Government?
- (2) If so, is it intended that full details of that contract and its allocation be provided to the Member for Bassendean?
- (3) If so, when?
- (4) If not, why not?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3) A response was forwarded on 8 July 1999.
- (4) Not applicable.

COMMERCE AND TRADE, LOCAL CONTENT POLICY

294. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Resources Development:

- (1) Has an estimate been made of the value of the work provided to West Australian companies as a direct result of the Government's local content policy?
- (2) What is the estimate of the value of the work that was made available under that policy in the 1998-99 financial year?
- (3) How has that estimate been calculated?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) No.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

RETAIL TRADING, CHANGE TO TRADING HOURS

295. Mr BROWN to the Premier:

- (1) Has the Premier made any public comments reassuring small business retailers that the Coalition Government will not make any radical changes to trading hours?
- (2) Is the Premier aware of a proposal to lengthen trading hours on week days to 9.00pm?
- (3) Would any change of this nature be a radical change to trading hours?
- (4) Is the Premier aware of a push for Sunday trading?
- (5) Would any change of this nature be a radical change to trading hours?

Mr COURT replied:

This question was previously asked as question on notice 3374. The following answer was correct as at 6 August 1999, when it was forwarded to your Electorate Office.

- (1) I indicated that we would not be making any major or radical changes to trading hours. This is in line with our election promise to maintain the existing policy in relation to trading hours.
- (2)-(5) The Government is obliged to review the Retail Trading Hours Act under the National Competition Principles Agreement. I am aware there has been some media speculation about the review, but no Government decisions have been made.

CONEY STEVENS PROJECT MANAGEMENT PTY LTD, GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONS

322. Ms McHALE to the Minister for Works and Services:

- (1) How many Government commissions have been awarded to Coney Stevens Project Management Company for each of the following financial years -
 - (a) 1998-99;
 - (b) 1997-98; and
 - (c) 1996-97?
- (2) What are these projects and what is the value of each of them?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) The Department of Contract and Management Services (CAMS) awarded the following commissions to Coney Stevens Project Management:
 - (a) In the 1998-99 year CAMS awarded 3 commissions to Coney Stevens Project Management.
 - (b) In the 1997-98 year CAMS awarded 5 commissions to Coney Stevens Project Management.
 - (c) In the 1996-97 year CAMS did not award any commissions to Coney Stevens Project Management. However, CAMS did award 2 commissions to Stevens Project Management, which was a precursor to Coney Stevens Project management.

CAMS does not have any records of how many commissions other Government agencies have awarded to Coney Stevens Project Management.

- (2) The projects and their values on which Coney Stevens Project Management were commissioned are as follows:
1998-99 Commissions:

Project	Project Value
Peel Educational Precinct - Colocation of Peel Regional Campus Stage 2 and the Peel Senior Campus.	\$22,500,000
Perth Conference and Exhibition Centre.	\$98,820,000
Barrack Square Redevelopment - Project Management Consultancy Services.	\$5,000,000
1997-98 Commissions:	
Project	Project Value
Police Operations Support Facility - Midland - Project Management.	\$42,000,000
Midland Railway Workshops Precinct - Urban Planning Services for the Masterplanning.	Not yet determined
WA Police Academy - Facilities Procurement Options.	\$45,000,000
Automatic Irrigation of School Grounds: Project Management Services (1 year contract with 3 x 1 year renewable options).	\$1,720,000 (to date)
WA Department of Training (WADT) Consultancy Services for Program Management (1 year contract with 3 x 1 year renewable options).	\$17,000,000 (Annual Program)
The following individual projects have/are being Project Managed within the WADT Program:	
- Kimberley College of TAFE - Broome Campus	\$3,810,000
- Kimberley College of TAFE - Aquaculture Training Centre, Broome	\$1,195,000
- Southwest Regional College of TAFE - Bunbury Campus Stage 2	\$9,600,000
- Midland College Flexible Delivery Centre	\$600,000
- Central Metropolitan College of TAFE - Perth, School of Art and Design	\$5,500,000
- Kimberley College of TAFE - Kununurra	\$800,000
- Southwest Regional College of TAFE - Manjimup Multipurpose Campus	\$500,000
- CY O'Connor College of TAFE - Northam Campus	\$2,000,000
- Westcoast College of TAFE Balga Learning Resource Centre	\$700,000
- Pundulmurra College - Roebourne Campus	\$1,500,000
- South Metropolitan College of TAFE - Peel Stage 2	\$7,500,000
- CY O'Connor College of TAFE - Moora Campus	\$1,300,000
- Central West College of TAFE - Geraldton Campus	\$5,900,000
1996-97 Stevens Project Management Commissions:	
Project	Project Value
Alexander Library - Energy Investigation Study	Not yet determined
Kings Park Botanic Garden - Centennial Enhancement Stage B	\$4,035,000

YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL

325. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Youth:

- (1) How often has the Youth Affairs Council met from 1 January 1997 to date?
- (2)
 - (a) Have there been any changes to the membership of the Council since its inception; and
 - (b) if so, will the Minister provide details of these changes?
- (3) What are the primary matters currently under consideration by -
 - (a) the Office of Youth Affairs; and
 - (b) the Youth Affairs Council?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)-(2) These matters should be referred to the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia.
- (3)
 - (a) The Office of Youth Affairs seeks to develop, co-ordinate and implement youth policy initiatives and programs across the government and non-government sector; improve access to information and lines to community resources for youth; and develop programs that address the needs of young people.
 - (b) Recommendations resulting from the recent Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia Conference.

ROADS, MALIBU ROAD-READ STREET, ROCKINGHAM

326. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the intersection of Malibu Road and Read Street in Rockingham and ask -

- (a) does the Government recognise the fact that this is an extremely busy intersection with cars banked up for long periods of time;
- (b) does the Government acknowledge that Malibu Road is an important feeder road to Safety Bay and Waikiki;
- (c) will the Government be installing traffic lights on this intersection; and
- (d) if not, why not?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a) I understand from Main Roads that this is a relatively busy intersection but inspections have indicated that cars are not banked up for long periods of time.
- (b) Yes.
- (c)-(d) No. This intersection has a low priority for the installation of traffic signals when compared with other sites across the metropolitan area. The City of Rockingham submitted a proposal for the construction of a roundabout under the Federal Black Spot Program in 1999/2000 but the project was not ranked high enough to attract funds.

POLICE, MINIMUM HOURS FOR DIFFICULT TO STAFF STATIONS

329. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Police:

I refer to the current ceiling of 40 hours standard to Goldfields police officers and ask the Minister -

- (a) why does this 40 hour limit apply when officers above the 26th parallel are subject to a 44 hour limit;
- (b) have you considered introducing a policy change so that police stations that are difficult to staff can have access to average minimum hours of 44 each week; and
- (c) which towns and cities are considered the most difficult to staff?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (a) The ordinary hours of duty for all police officers other than Commissioned Officers and Officers in Charge of Police Stations is 40 per week. The Police Service Enterprise Agreement provides that the Commissioner of Police may determine localities or stations where an on-going regular additional shift of eight (8) hours each fortnight or an additional four (4) hours per week shall be worked. Historically the Commissioner approved of all localities north of 26° south latitude to be in this category.
- (b) Yes. As part of the 1998/1999 Enterprise Bargaining negotiations, a proposal to extend the 44 hour week to all country locations was discussed. Though the option of a 44 hour week could be attractive to staff, the additional hours worked above 40 per week are paid at the rate of 1.625 times the normal hourly rate so any decision to extend the working hours to all police stations would be cost ineffective to the Agency. All police centres are subject to staffing establishments, determined by workloads and any other special requirements of the community.
- (c) Currently the most difficult towns to staff are the smaller towns in the Eastern Wheatbelt and Kalgoorlie.

TOURISM, MARKETING AND ADVERTISING BUDGETS

334. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

In the -

- (a) 1996-97; and
- (b) 1999-2000

state budgets, how much was allocated to -

- (i) marketing, and
- (ii) advertising?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (a) In 1996-97, \$18.99 million was allocated to Marketing by the WATC. This included:

National Marketing	6,068,393
Tourism Information Distribution & Retail Booking Service	1,138,985
International Marketing	5,862,339
Event Tourism	5,034,041
Convention & Incentive Travel	887,208

- (b) In the 1999-2000 budget, \$20.77 million was allocated to Marketing by the WATC. This included:

National Marketing	5,788,624
Tourism Information Distribution & Retail Booking Service	1,177,630
International Marketing	6,577,251
Event Tourism	6,200,457
Convention & Incentive Travel	1,025,142

- (i) The amount allocated to advertising, by the WATC, in 1996-97 was \$8.34 million.
- (ii) The amount allocated to advertising, by the WATC in 1999-2000 is \$10.58 million.

The 1999-2000 value includes \$1.4 million in funding for Regional Tourism Authorities.

Amounts shown for both periods include advertising and promotional costs such as production of brochures, media familiarisations and participation in travel shows. I should point out that the 1992/93 McCarrey Report highlighted that a mere \$2.885 million was spent on advertising and promotions in 1992/93, from a total budget of \$19.498 million.

TOURISM, COST OF OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

335. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) What is the total cost of office space, salaries and other outgoings for Government tourism representatives/employees/contractors in other countries?
- (2) What is the cost per country?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (1) The cost of office space, salaries and other outgoings for the Western Australian Tourism Commission in other countries, in 1998/99 was as follows:

Office Space	
Germany	15,312
Japan	149,038
Malaysia	10,527
Singapore	87,385
UK	20,747

Salaries	
Germany	83,863
Japan	211,161
Malaysia	35,942
Singapore	176,171
UK	190,205

Overheads	
Germany	63,552
Japan	60,586
Malaysia	62,512
Singapore	175,432
UK	152,238

- (2) The total cost per country was:

Germany	162,727
Japan	420,785
Malaysia	108,981
Singapore	438,988
UK	363,190

WORKERS COMPENSATION, UNINSURED CLAIMS

338. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

Under the Western Australian Workers' compensation system in relation to the coverage for workers whose employer was uninsured will the Minister advise for each of the last 10 financial years -

- (a) how many claims were made for injured workers where the employer was not insured;
- (b) what was the total compensation paid on account of uninsured claims;
- (c) what was the total of funds recovered from uninsured employers;
- (d) how many uninsured employers were involved;
- (e) what was the outstanding debt for uninsured workers' compensation claims as at 30 June for each year; and
- (f) what was the debt written off from uninsured workers' compensation claims in each financial year?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
(a)	28	51	40	24
(b)	234 139	425 327	525 964	409 667
(c)	38 889	94 678	17 182	40 909
(d)	28	50	40	23
(e)	1 017 455	1 259 285	1 598 723	1 066 788
(f)	nil	78 392	153 551	369 583
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
(a)	38	25	31	28
(b)	1 073 221	1 129 971	1 066 338	692 866
(c)	21 992	192 963	136 644	70 494
(d)	35	22	31	26
(e)	866 050	1 780 296	2 832 053	3 648 661
(f)	354 879	16 717	15 947	7 017

	1997-98	1998-99
(a)	37	26
(b)	492 776	427 956
(c)	47 282	128 450
(d)	36	24
(e)	2 892 814	3 119 387
(f)	115 469	nil

WORKERS COMPENSATION, WORKCOVER COMPLIANCE OFFICERS AND UNINSURED EMPLOYERS

339. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

For each of the last 10 financial years, under the Western Australian worker's compensation system what has been the -

- (a) number of businesses contacted by WorkCover compliance officers;
- (b) number of businesses found to be without current workers' compensation insurance cover;
- (c) number of WorkCover compliance officers in FTEs;
- (d) amount of additional premiums collected as a result of compliance officers detecting uninsured employers;
- (e) number of prosecutions initiated due to employers not being insured; and
- (f) number of successful prosecutions arising from employers failing to have required workers' compensation insurance?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
(a)	26 176	29 405	23 223	16 917
(b)	2 363	1 853	1 576	2 139
(c)	14	10.5	9.5	9.3
(d)	4 980 000	1 350 000	1 060 000	515 520
(e)	41	28	13	15
(f)	37	27	10	14

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
(a)	20 319	25 461	23 507	18 245
(b)	1 639	1 718	1 713	1 227
(c)	9.5	9.4	9.5	8.8
(d)	750 000	634 267	900 218	517 415
(e)	25	31	18	11
(f)	24	30	17	10

	1997-98	1998-99
(a)	19 342	20 176
(b)	1 202	1 734
(c)	7.7	7.9
(d)	450 595	575 549
(e)	5	19
(f)	4	18

WORKERS COMPENSATION, FALSE DECLARATIONS OF TOTAL WAGES

340. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

Under the Western Australian Workers' Compensation system in 1998-99, what has been the -

- (a) number of businesses investigated by WorkCover compliance officers for the purpose of establishing whether the declaration of total wages was accurate;
- (b) number of businesses found to have provided a false declaration of total wages paid;
- (c) number of WorkCover compliance officers, in FTEs, committed to checking that the declaration of total wages was accurate;
- (d) amount of additional premiums collected as a result of compliance officers detecting under insured employers;
- (e) number of prosecutions initiated due to employers being found to have made an untrue declaration regarding their total wages; and
- (f) number of successful prosecutions arising from employers being found to have made an untrue declaration regarding their total wages?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (a) One.
- (b) Nil.
- (c) Six compliance officers are authorised amongst their other functions, to carry out wages audits.
- (d)-(f) Nil.

WORKERS COMPENSATION, STAMP DUTY ON INDEMNITY INSURANCE

341. Mr KOBELKE to the Treasurer:

- (1) For each of the last 10 financial years up to 30 June 1999, what was the revenue raised from stamp duty on indemnity insurance required under the State's workers compensation scheme?
- (2) What is the estimated revenue in 1999-2000 from stamp duty on indemnity insurance under the State's workers compensation scheme?

Mr COURT replied:

The Minister for Finance has provided the following response:

- (1) This information is not available as no separate allocation of collections is maintained for policies of insurance against the liability of an employer to pay compensation under the Workers' Compensation and Assistance Act.
- (2) The estimates for the 1999-2000 budget were only prepared at the aggregate level for stamp duty on insurance. No estimate was made of the workers' compensation insurance component.

MEAT INSPECTION, PIG GRANULOMAS

351. Mr TRENORDEN to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Will the Minister confirm that Environmental Health Officers employed by the Shire of Northam have detected in excess of 300 granulomas in pigs during the period 20 May 1999 and 24 June 1999?
- (2) Is it correct that whilst the majority of these *granulomas* referred to in part (1) above have been consigned from one property, 11 other properties have also been identified as having pig *granulomas* detected?
- (3) Is it correct that the only reason these granulomas were detected is because the Environmental Health Officers from the Shire of Northam undertake a complete inspection of the carcasses and offal which includes the incising of the submaxillary lymph nodes in the head, bronchial and mediastinal lymph nodes in the lungs and the mesenteric lymph nodes?
- (4) Is it correct that the inspection procedures as required by the Australian Code of Practice for Veterinary Public Health, Hygienic Production and Inspection of Meat for Human Consumption stipulates the minimum standard for meat inspection which has to be undertaken and this only requires the observation and palpation of bronchial and mediastinal lymph nodes, observation of mesenteric lymph nodes, and provides the option of excision of the submaxillary and cervical lymph nodes or discarding of the head, thus not having to incise the lymph nodes in the head?
- (5) If the Minister is of the opinion that the detection of avian tuberculosis has no significant health risk, is the Minister prepared to advise the consumers of Western Australia that they should be prepared to eat pork which could contain tuberculosis?
- (6) Does the Minister believe that the consumers of Western Australia would have any confidence in the Health Department of Western Australia if it were to state that consumers should be prepared to eat pork which may contain tuberculosis?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3) The Australian Standard for Hygiene Production of Meat for Human Consumption - 2nd Edition, specifies the post-mortem inspection procedures for pigs which should enable the detection of any abnormal conditions.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) No. Referring to infections by mycobacteria in animals as "tuberculosis" is misleading and should not be confused with the human *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection, which is quite different. The typical animal mycobacteria, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC), or Avian tuberculosis is found in the environment in waters, soil and on plants. Generally MAC causes little human disease, but persons with a weakened immune systems such as diabetics, HIV patients and alcoholics have an increased risk of infection from environmental sources. MAC infections in pigs are usually confined to lymph nodes of the intestines or head. The Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production of Meat for Human Consumption - 2nd Edition sets out minimum inspection procedures for pig carcasses and renders pig meat quite safe for human consumption.
- (6) The Health Department would not recommend that consumers eat pork which is infected with avian tuberculosis. The Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production of Meat for Human Consumption 2nd Edition, is more than appropriate to ensure that meat is safe for human consumption.

ARMADALE HEALTH SERVICE

353. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Will the Minister advise if the Armadale Health Service is a -

- (a) public hospital;
- (b) private hospital; and/or
- (c) a public and private hospital

(2) Is the Government intending to licence the Armadale Health Service as a private hospital?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) (a) Armadale Health Service is a public health service which runs the Armadale Kelmscott Memorial Hospital, a public hospital.
- (b) Armadale Health Service is not a private hospital.
- (c) Tenders will shortly be called for an operator to run a private hospital to be collocated with the public hospital.
- (2) Armadale Health Service will not be licensed as a private hospital. The private hospital when collocated with the public hospital, will be licensed as a private hospital.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' HOUSING IN REGIONAL TOWNS, CONSTRUCTION BY PRIVATE COMPANIES

355. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Further to question on notice No. 3267 of 1999, has the manual search of records been completed?
- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, will the Minister advise how many companies the Government has entered into arrangements with under which such companies will construct housing in regional towns for Government employees (on the understanding that the State will underwrite a long term lease for that housing at commercial rates)?
- (3) Will the Minister advise which companies are referred to in the answer to (2) above?
- (4) In what regional towns/areas of the State has such housing been provided?
- (5) How many houses have been provided in each town/region?

Dr HAMES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) 32.
- (3) Ridgecross Holdings Pty Ltd & Tactical Holdings Pty Ltd, Bowseem Pty Ltd, Charter Property Group, Hogan Pty Ltd (Atf Jm Vincent Family Trust), Kelly: JA (Kelly Family Children's Trust), Michael R Murray Family Trust, Midnight Nominees Pty Ltd, Brier Rose Pty Ltd, Della Rose Pty Ltd, Gillamy Nominees Pty Ltd, Power Technics Pty Ltd, Sharp:N&M, Brier-Rose Pty Ltd & Garry:MA, Sulcon Pty Ltd, Crystall Holdings Pty Ltd, David O'Connell Family Trust, Finetimes Nominees Pty Ltd, Glenport Holdings Pty Ltd (Aft Sorrento Unit Trust), Privit Pty Ltd, Quaedia Nominees Pty Ltd, Rare Coins & Precious Metals P/L Atf The Rojoy Trust, Rindling Pty Ltd, Somite Pty Ltd, Steven Gates Family Trust, Woodside Offshore Petroleum Pty Ltd, Fairwind Holdings Pty Ltd, Kinstone Nominees Pty Ltd, Powell Family Trust, Riobell Enterprises Pty Ltd, The Flavell Family Trust, Don Williams Pty Ltd and Don Mclean, Finewood Investments Pty Ltd, Pederick Nominees Pty Ltd.
- (4) Broome, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Koombana, Kununurra, Mt Tarcoola.
- (5)

Broome	-	21 properties
Kalgoorlie	-	19 properties
Karratha	-	19 properties
Koombana	-	15 properties
Kununurra	-	4 properties
Mt Tarcoola	-	2 properties

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' HOUSING, UNMET DEMAND IN REGIONAL TOWNS

356. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Since 1 January 1997 how many houses in country towns have been purchased for Government employee accommodation?
- (2) Is there any unmet demand for employee housing in country -
 - (a) towns; and
 - (b) areas?
- (3) In what -
 - (a) towns; and
 - (b) areas,

is there an unmet demand for employee housing?

(3) What homes or other accommodation is required in each location?

Dr HAMES replied:

(1) 19 properties.

(2) (a) Towns: Yes
(b) Areas: Yes

(3) (a) Towns: Albany, Broome, Carnarvon, Derby, Esperance, Halls Creek, South Hedland, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Merredin, Port Hedland, Broome Hill, Lake Grace, Narrogin, Harvey, Margaret River, Nannup, Ballidu, Cue, Geraldton, Meekatharra, Mt Magnet, Mullewa, Roebourne, and Fitzroy Crossing.

(b) Areas: Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne, Southern, Great Southern, Central Wheatbelt, Goldfields, Southwest Region, and Mid-west Region.

(4)

Albany	-	3
Broome	-	4
Carnarvon	-	2
Derby	-	1
Esperance	-	5
Halls Creek	-	2
South Hedland	-	2
Kalgoorlie	-	7
Karratha	-	3
Merredin	-	2
Port Hedland	-	3
Broome Hill	-	1
Lake Grace	-	2
Narrogin	-	1
Harvey	-	1
Margaret River	-	2
Nannup	-	1
Ballidu	-	1
Cue	-	1
Geraldton	-	3
Meekatharra	-	1
Mt Magnet	-	1
Mullewa	-	3
Roebourne	-	2
Fitzroy Crossing	-	2

SMALL BUSINESSES IN COUNTRY AREAS, CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS

358. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Works and Services:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that a number of small businesses in regional areas have suffered financial losses as a consequence of entering into contracts with larger city-based companies that have defaulted on payment and/or become insolvent?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that some regional small businesses have been so affected by being subcontractors in Government contracts?
- (3) What steps does the Government intend to take to ensure that small regional subcontractors engaged by a prime contractor contracted to carry out Government work are paid either by the contractor or the Government?
- (4) Will the Government modify the contracting arrangements to ensure that -
 - (a) the prime contractor is required to disclose to the Government the name and total amount due under any sub contract entered into;
 - (b) the prime contractor is required to certify when the sub contractor has completed the work; and
 - (c) the Government pays the sub contractor direct and deducts that amount from the prime contractor's price?
- (5) Will such arrangements be made with prime contractors?
- (6) If not, why not?
- (7) What steps will be taken by the Government to protect regional small businesses engaged by prime contractors to carry out Government work?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) The Minister is aware that small businesses in the South West are likely to suffer financial loss as the result of insolvency of a Bunbury contractor.
- (2) The insolvent contractor had a number of Government contracts.
- (3) The obligation to pay the subcontractor lies with the head contractor. The amount payable under an individual subcontract may be affected by claims for variation, faulty goods or work, and set-offs for debts owed under other

contracts. Resolution of disputes under a subcontract is a matter for the courts or a duly appointed arbitrator. Similarly, payment of creditors after insolvency is a matter for an administrator or liquidator and distribution of funds is subject to strict legal principles. It is not appropriate for the Government to take on these roles itself by determining and paying funds directly to subcontractors or creditors. The Government is committed to the National Action on Security of Payment in the Construction Industry endorsed by all Australian Construction Ministers in 1996. These include:

- Assessment of participants in the industry through pre-qualification;
 - Introduction of the Code of Practice for the W.A. Building Industry;
 - Prompt payment in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 308;
 - Statutory declarations from head contractors that sub-contractors have been paid.
- (4) (a) The Government will not modify its contracting arrangements to require disclosure to the Government of names of subcontractors, totals due under subcontracts and completion of subcontract work as this would be a considerable administrative burden on industry with limited benefit.
- (b) The Government already uses contract conditions that require building and construction contractors to provide statutory declarations that subcontractors have been paid.
- (c) For reasons outlined above, it is not appropriate for the Government to pay subcontractors directly and deduct this amount from any amounts due to the head contractor except where this has been ordered by a court or instructed by an administrator or receiver.
- (5) No.
- (6) For the reasons outlined above.
- (7) The Government is committed to implementing the national actions. These apply equally to all businesses in subcontractor relationships.

GERALDTON MARINA PROJECT, SHEARMAN COMMUNICATIONS

359. Mr BROWN to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade; Regional Development and Small Business:

Further to question on notice No. 3032 of 1999, will the Minister advise what scope of work will be carried out by Shearman Communications under the public relations contract concerning the Geraldton Marina/Museum Project?

Mr COWAN replied:

Shearman Communications was appointed on 19 January 1999 by the Mid West Development Commission to develop a communications and public relations strategy for the Batavia Coast Marina project. The contract is for a 12 month period. Three companies (including a Geraldton based company) were asked to provide an expression of interest to undertake this work. Shearman Communications was selected based on value for money and the company's level of experience in similar projects. The scope of work includes:

- Preparation of the Public Relations Strategy;
- Be an integral part of the Marketing Planning Team;
- Devise and implement marketing plan;
- Ongoing input and suggestions for the different elements of the project;
- It would also be expected that the Consultants would attend a certain number of meetings that were relevant to the project to keep abreast of current issues;
- Coordination of public relations activities with the Mid West Region Museum Development Committee where appropriate.

RAIL FREIGHT SALES TASK FORCE, ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE

364. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

How much has the Rail Freight Sales Task Force spent since the end of March 1999 on advertising in -

- (a) Farm Weekly;
- (b) the Countryman;
- (c) other rural media; and
- (d) other non-rural media?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a)-(d) I do not consider it appropriate to provide interim reports on the sale process or the funding of that process. However, I will give a commitment to this Parliament that I will table a full report of the process, including funding, at the completion of the sale.

RAIL FREIGHT SALES TASK FORCE, LEGAL FEES

365. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How much has the Rail Freight Sales Task Force incurred in legal fees to law firm Mallesons?

- (2) How much of that sum was paid for services -
- (a) assisting in the drafting of legislation; and
 - (b) acting as adviser to the Deputy Premier during parliamentary debate?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1)-(2) Please refer to my response given to Legislative Assembly Parliamentary Question Number 364 asked on Wednesday, 11 August 1999.

DIALYSIS UNIT, ROCKINGHAM-KWINANA

373. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the lack of a Kidney Dialysis Unit in the Rockingham-Kwinana area and ask -

- (a) why does the Rockingham-Kwinana area not have a Renal Dialysis Unit;
- (b) when will a Renal Dialysis Unit be established in the Rockingham- Kwinana area;
- (c) if no dialysis unit is planned to be established why not;
- (d) is it the case that dialysis units are in place at -
 - (i) Royal Perth;
 - (ii) Sir Charles Gardiner;
 - (iii) Shenton Park;
 - (iv) Kalgoorlie;
 - (v) Geraldton;
 - (vi) Joondalup;
 - (vii) Armadale;
 - (viii) Mandurah;
 - (ix) Bunbury;
 - (x) Port Hedland;
 - (xi) Broome; and
 - (xii) Swan District;
- (e) if not which of these hospitals do not have such a facility and when will they receive them;
- (f) how many patients in the Rockingham-Kwinana area are currently undergoing dialysis;
- (g) how many patients in the Mandurah area are currently undergoing dialysis,
- (h) how many patients in the Joondalup area are currently undergoing dialysis,
- (i) how many patients in the Armadale area are currently undergoing dialysis,
- (j) has the Government identified a site for a dialysis unit in Rockingham; and
- (k) if not why not?

Mr DAY replied:

- (a)-(k) Please see response to question on notice 237 asked on 11 August 1999.

ROADS, PATTERSON ROAD-FLINDERS LAND-READ STREET, ROCKINGHAM

375. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the intersection at Patterson Road, Flinders Lane and Read Street in Rockingham and ask -

- (a) will the Government be introducing filtering arrows on this corner considering the fact that it is dangerous and there has been a fatality at this intersection;
- (b) if not, why not;
- (c) does the Government recognise that this intersection is dangerous; and
- (d) when will filter arrows be installed?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (a)-(d) The City of Rockingham has submitted a request for funding for the construction of a roundabout at this intersection under the Federal Black Spot 1999/2000 Program. If council is unsuccessful in obtaining Federal funding for the roundabout, Main Roads will examine priorities and program the installation of right turn arrows accordingly.

REGIONAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PROMOTION

376. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) What action has the Government taken to publicize the benefits of regional Western Australia?
- (2) What specific measures have been taken to promote the social qualities of living in regional Western Australia?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1) In 1993, the Western Australian Government enacted the Regional Development Commissions Act to establish regional development commissions to co-ordinate and promote regional Western Australia. Key objectives of this Act are to identify infrastructure services to promote both the economic and social development within the region; provide information and advice to promote business development within the region and generally take steps to encourage, promote, facilitate and monitor economic development in the region. The scope of these activities includes:

- maximising job creation and improving career opportunities; developing and broadening the economic base of the region; identifying infrastructure services to promote economic and social development; providing information and advice to promote business development; seeking to ensure that the general standard of government services and access to those services in the region is comparable to that which applies in the metropolitan area; and generally taking steps to encourage, promote, facilitate and monitor the economic development of the region.

The nine Regional Development Commissions along with the Department of Commerce and Trade and other key Agencies have undertaken a number of individual and joint initiatives to promote the benefits of living in regional Western Australia. Through general publicity, the Department and Regional Development Commissions internet sites and briefings to potential investors, the agencies highlight the lifestyle advantages, comparative advantages and the social, geographic and economic benefits of the respective regions.

Department of Commerce and Trade

- (2) The Department of Commerce and Trade's Regional Development Division continues to undertake a range of initiatives aimed at enhancing Regional Development and promoting living in regional Western Australia. Examples of specific measures undertaken are:

- The *Living in the Regions* report which provides primary research on issues which influence where people live in the State now and in the future.
- The *Regions Western Australia* journal is published three times a year and aims to promote the regional activities of people living and working in regional Western Australia.
- The Department of Commerce and Trade and AgWA jointly fund the *Network News* journal four times a year which promotes social activities and issues affecting rural, remote and regional women in Western Australia.
- Also published are the *Economic Perspective* series of documents and *Invest in Regional Western Australia*. These documents provide detailed economic information on the regions and promote investment opportunities available in non metropolitan Western Australia which will enhance the quality of life available in the regions.

Gascoyne Development Commission

- (2) Promotion of the social qualities of living in the Gascoyne Region is achieved through:

- Successful outcomes to social development projects in which the community itself exhibits those qualities which demonstrate a different lifestyle to that in the metropolitan areas. For example, Positive Carnarvon Campaign, Aboriginal traineeships and CDEP projects, Heritage Precinct activities etc;
- Regional promotion activities that encourage people to view the Gascoyne Region as having a healthier lifestyle and one in which small businesses can successfully operate. For example, the Commission's advertisements in journals and magazines promote the Region as a place to 'mix business with pleasure'.

Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission

- (2) Initiatives are in place to develop a regional marketing strategy for the Goldfields-Esperance region and develop a strategy to attract and retain professional staff. The Goldfields Esperance Development Commission's aim is to promote and enhance economic and social development of the region. Examples of how this is achieved are as follows:

- Involvement with Main Street and Small Town Economic Planning projects;
- Establishing an Industry Development Centre to maximise regional business input, promote long term regional support of organisations and assist in attracting and development of alternate and new industries including focus on lifestyle in the region;
- Providing Regional profile statistical and development information;
- Providing support and coordination of the inaugural Goldfields Foundations for Leadership Course;
- Undertaking to compile a Community Resources Manual on behalf of a range of community groups;
- Promoting and coordinating the 2029 youth forum, resulting in the establishment of a 2029 Advisory Committee to the GEDC Board; and

- Promoting and coordination of the “Women Achieving” seminar and the “Honour Board” to acknowledge women who have played an active role in the Goldfields during the past 100 years.

Great Southern Development Commission

- (2) Great Southern Development Commission has had involvement in the following projects/documents promoting the social qualities of living in regional Western Australia:
- The Commission has undertaken prefeasibility studies/investment Briefs which highlight the Great Southern’s comparative advantage for specific investment opportunities.
 - The Development Commission Director and staff have participated in many presentations on the benefits of rural Western Australian industry services in Beijing, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Japan and recently presented an address at the ABARE Conference in Canberra in March this year.
 - Regional Marketing Plan – Promotion of the region based on the URV (Unique Regional Value) of ‘Natural Beauty and Enviably Lifestyle’.
 - Great Southern Economic Strategy – Goals and strategies to promote and facilitate economic development with the aim of making regional living more prosperous for all.

Kimberley Development Commission

- (2) The Kimberley Development Commission has completed a number of strategic initiatives to promote the social qualities of living in the Kimberley, including:
- Financing Strategies for Digital Mobile Telephone Services at Halls Creek and Fitzroy Crossing: The Commission has facilitated the establishment of digital mobile telephone services at Fitzroy Crossing, Pilbara and Halls Creek. Funds for the project were sourced from Federal, State and local governments and the private sector.
 - SBS Television Services: The Commission is facilitating the establishment of SBS Television in all major towns in partnership with the region’s local government authorities.
 - Halls Creek Community Resource Centre: The Commission has initiated a major project in Halls Creek to improve social and community infrastructure. In partnership with the Shire of Halls Creek, a ‘Community Resource Centre’ is planned which aims to provide improved public building space and improved service facilities. Based on the current design, the construction cost is estimated to be \$2.2m.
 - Cultural and Heritage Promotion and Development: The Commission has supported community efforts to further develop and maintain the region’s cultural and heritage facilities. Assistance has been provided through a project aimed at protecting, preserving and interpreting the cultural, natural and built heritage of the Kimberley. Assistance has also been provided to other groups undertaking social development activities including:
 - Kununurra Arts Council
 - Historical Societies/Museum WA
 - Goolari Media Enterprises (NAIDOC/reconciliation celebrations)
 - Regional Promotional Activities: The Commission has promoted the lifestyle advantages and social qualities of Kimberley towns to mining companies and to petroleum industry service companies as it seeks local content and service bases for major projects.

Mid West Development Commission

- (2) “Financial and Lifestyle Opportunities in the Mid West of Western Australia”. Promotional conference held at the Hyatt Hotel in Perth in April 1999.
- Regular advertising feature and promotion of local businesses and lifestyle in the Skywest “Destinations” magazine. This magazine comes out monthly and is carried on all Skywest planes flying from Perth to Geraldton.
 - Business Capability and Services Directory, developed by the Mid West Industry Development Unit has been produced and is on the Internet and on CD. This directory promotes the Mid West region’s business capability and encourages the use of local businesses on government and private contracts.
 - Publication of the “Region of Opportunity” promotional brochure.
 - Multi Media presentation titled “Region of Opportunity” which is shown at a range of meetings and events for visitors to the region.
 - Publication of a regular Regional Developer Newsletter which is distributed within the region and to a range of external businesses and organisations.
 - In addition to the above, the Mid West Development Commission is in the process of producing a “Lifestyle” publication for the Mid West region.
 - The Commission is also facilitating a community wide project called “Give Me Geraldton Any Day” which is aimed at creating a positive attitude towards living and working in the Mid West region’s capital of Geraldton.

Peel Development Commission

- (2) As part of its core activities the Commission has in the last 12 months prepared the following publications either through its own means or in conjunction with the Department of Commerce and Trade:

Call Centre brochure;
 Economic Perspective;
 Geographic Perspective;
 Contributed to a CD used to promote the regions in South Africa;
 Various publications produced by the Peel Region Tourism Association;
 Updated its promotional video.

The Commission set up a major Peel region promotional display at the Royal Show in 1998 and is doing so again in 1999.

Pilbara Development Commission

(2) During the past year the Pilbara Development Commission has undertaken the following activities to promote the social qualities of living in the Pilbara region:

- *Living and Working in the Pilbara – Information Seminar:* The first Living and Working in the Pilbara Seminar was held to provide information for teachers who had a confirmed placing to the Pilbara. More recently the Seminar was extended to include graduates who may be considering teaching in the Pilbara region. The 1999 Seminar was expanded to include new employees from all vocations who were relocating to the region. Pilbara local government authorities attended the Seminar and provided information to participants. A number of guest speakers presented advice and information about living and working in the Pilbara.
- *Pilbara Youth Forum:* Young people representing local government authorities, resource companies and business and industry groups as well as interested individuals, attended the Pilbara Forum held on 12 June 1999. The development of strategies for addressing the issues raised at the forum will be one of the tasks for the inaugural meeting of the Pilbara 2029 Committee.
- *Pilbara Royal Show Display:* The Pilbara Development Commission, in partnership with relevant interest groups in the Pilbara, prepares a display for the Perth Royal Agricultural Society Show. The display reflects all industrial and economic activities in the Pilbara region. The main objectives of the project are to promote:
 the Pilbara's resources, including investment opportunities;
 the Pilbara as a place to visit; and
 a Pilbara lifestyle and the Pilbara as a place to live.
- *Pilbara Business Awards:* The Pilbara Development Commission continues to support local businesses through its contribution to the local Chambers of Commerce Small Business Awards. The Commission presents business awards for "Best Business with a Regional Focus".
- *Aboriginal Arts and Crafts Strategy:* An Aboriginal and Arts and Crafts Strategy is being developed to coordinate and promote the participation of Aboriginal communities and individuals in the manufacture and sale of Aboriginal arts and crafts.
- *Dampier Archipelago Marine Service Facility:* The Dampier Archipelago has been recognised as having significant tourism potential. In order to realise this potential it is essential that adequate infrastructure is in place. In addition to this potential the Shire of Roebourne has one of the highest proportions of recreational boats per head of population in Western Australia. In May 1999 the Commission's Board approved a project to advance construction of a marine service facility in Dampier by furthering the work undertaken previously by the Pilbara and Gascoyne Islands Consultative Committee.
- *Growing Old in the Pilbara Development Commission:* A major project examining the issues facing older residents in the Pilbara is currently underway. A significant aspect of the project will be a seminar in September this year, titled "Growing Old in the Pilbara – Sustaining a Quality of Life". The project also includes activities by the local government authorities to follow up the regional seminar by developing local seniors' plans to be implemented over five years.
- *South Hedland Enhancement Scheme:* The South Hedland Enhancement Scheme was established in October 1995 through a State Agreement between the Western Australian State Government and BHP Iron Ore, aimed at improving the quality of life of residents in South Hedland. Under the Scheme money was used to improve the existing road system, provide dual access walkways and improve community, leisure and recreational facilities in South Hedland.

South West Development Commission

(2) The South West Development Commission has worked on a range of projects to promote the social qualities of living in the South West. Examples in 1998-99 include:

- *Living Windows Into the South West.* The Commission funds and coordinates the development of the South West Ecomuseum, branded as Living Windows Into the South West. This network of eco-tourism and nature-based tourism attractions in the region aim to attract more visitors to the South West, to stay longer, and to appreciate the diverse ecology of the region. A comprehensive national and international marketing strategy is being implemented.
- *Other tourism strategies.* The Commission has funded and worked with a number of tourism associations in the South West to assist them develop and implement marketing strategies for their local areas. These marketing activities aim to further develop the South West as the State's premier tourist destination. Already the industry is worth more than \$250 million annually to the regional economy, attracting more than 1.5 million visitors annually.

- Continued distribution of "Both Sides of the Coin" video. The Commission produced this video to highlight both the economic and lifestyle qualities of the South West Region. The video promotes the attractiveness of living in and visiting the South West Region.
- South West regional and sub-regional brochures. The Commission produces and distributes a range of brochures on the South West Region. These brochures include a comprehensive description of the social infrastructures in the region, including education, health and recreation. The information in the brochures is also available through the Commission's website.

Wheatbelt Development Commission

- (2) In most of our promotional activity quality of life and social infrastructure considerations such as health and education play an important part. The Wheatbelt Development Commission has undertaken a number of promotional activities over the past few years to raise awareness of the region and to promote it to potential residents and investors. A breakfast was held in Perth to promote the Wheatbelt to metropolitan based decision-makers as a region worth recommending to potential investors. The promotion in Perth certainly highlighted the mixture of social and economic benefits of investing and living in the Wheatbelt region. The Wheatbelt Development Commission has worked with the Mid West Development Commission to promote regional Western Australia to potential investors in South Africa. A project in the southern part of the region (Wagin, West Arthur and Pingelly) is analysing the area's comparative advantages, and producing a marketing plan to promote business relocation from the metropolitan area. This is a pilot that will assist other areas wishing to pursue similar goals. Integral to the Commission's activities is promotion of the region to individual investors, residents and metropolitan-based decision-makers, specifically tailored to the opportunity as presented. Staff from the Commission will be speaking to trainee teachers about the benefits and opportunities presented by rural living. The Commission's annual reports and other publications promote the region's social infrastructure and lifestyle in recognition that this is a major part of the decision-making criteria for potential investors.

YOUTH, PROGRAMS IN REGIONAL AREAS

377. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Youth:

- (1) Apart from the formal system, what range of youth programs and projects in the regions are presently -
- (a) organised;
 - (b) funded; and
 - (c) supported,
- by departments and agencies under the Minister's control?
- (2) What is name of each program and project?
- (3) In what town or locality is each program or project conducted?
- (4) How much is allocated to each program or project in each town or locality?

Mr BOARD replied:

- (1)-(4) Please refer to the tabled paper.. [See paper No 115.]

YOUTH, PROGRAMS IN REGIONAL AREAS

379. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Apart from the formal system, what range of youth programs and projects in the regions are presently -
- (a) organised;
 - (b) funded; and
 - (c) supported,
- by departments and agencies under the Minister's control?
- (2) What is name of each program and project?
- (3) In what town or locality is each program or project conducted?
- (4) How much is allocated to each program or project in each town or locality?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply.

- (1) Community Based Services has funds in the Juvenile Justice Community Funding Program to purchase programs that target issues related to the prevention of juvenile offending. Funds are also provided to the Wyndham Youth Service Incorporated for this purpose.
- (2) See list below. Contracts for some additional programs are currently under negotiation and development, and further services will be advertised and purchased in the near future.
- (3)-(4) See list below.

YOUTH PROGRAMS FUNDED BY THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

NAME:	Aboriginal Urban Services
LOCALITY:	Girrawheen
SERVICE TYPE:	Self esteem program for Aboriginal youth
FUNDING:	\$70,000 per annum
NAME:	Armadale/Gosnells District Youth Resource
LOCALITY:	Armadale and Gosnells area
SERVICE TYPE:	To provide assessment and referral, school support, outreach, informal counselling, practical assistance, group work and courses to improve life skills.
FUNDING:	\$120,000 per annum
NAME:	Carnarvon Rotary Club
LOCALITY:	Carnarvon and surrounding areas
SERVICE TYPE:	A broad based support and brokerage service together with an automotive workshop and skills training program that aims to develop the skills of young people to a level that will improve their chances of gaining employment or further training.
FUNDING:	\$105,000
NAME:	City of Cockburn Youth Program
LOCALITY:	Cockburn and immediate area
SERVICE TYPE:	A broad based service of youth support, counselling program
FUNDING:	\$70,000
NAME:	Cockburn Aboriginal Brokerage
LOCALITY:	Cockburn and immediate area
SERVICE TYPE:	A broad based service of youth support, counselling programs. Brokerage to other services
FUNDING:	\$50,000
COMMENT:	This program to commence on the 1st October 1999
NAME:	Geraldton Streetwork Aboriginal Corporation
LOCALITY:	Town of Geraldton
SERVICE TYPE:	A youth support program using a diverse mix of centre based and outreach activities to target youth in and around Geraldton
FUNDING:	\$126,000
NAME:	Halls Creek Youth Service
LOCALITY:	Town of Halls Creek and immediate areas
SERVICE TYPE:	A youth support and recreation program.
FUNDING:	\$37,000
NAME:	Hedland Youth Involvement Council
LOCALITY:	Town of Hedland and South Hedland
SERVICE TYPE:	A drop in centre with services to youth and their families plus an outreach service.
FUNDING:	\$88,000
NAME:	Holyoake
LOCALITY:	Metropolitan area
SERVICE TYPE:	A drug and alcohol counselling service to youth and their families.
FUNDING:	\$90,000
NAME:	Koondoola/Girrawheen Youth Auto Program
LOCALITY:	Koondoola and Girrawheen areas
SERVICE TYPE:	An automotive workshop and skills training program that aims to develop the skills of young people to a level that will improve their chances of employment and further training.
FUNDING:	\$90,000
NAME:	North West Metropolitan Regional Youth Service
LOCALITY:	Joondalup Wanneroo areas
SERVICE TYPE:	A youth support program using a diverse mix of centre based and outreach activities to target youth in and around the area.
FUNDING:	\$65,000
NAME:	Avon Youth Outreach
LOCALITY:	Towns in the Avon Valley
SERVICE TYPE:	A youth development program based on a case work model.
FUNDING:	\$57,000
NAME:	Relationships Australia
LOCALITY:	Metropolitan area
SERVICE TYPE:	A parenting course for those adults caring for difficult to handle young people, particularly those in trouble with the law.
FUNDING:	\$40,000
NAME:	Rockingham/Kwinana Youth Auto Project
LOCALITY:	Rockingham Kwinana areas
SERVICE TYPE:	An automotive workshop and skills training program that aims to develop the skills of young people to a level that will improve their chances of employment and further training. A qualified school teacher also offers teaching opportunities to participants.
FUNDING:	\$90,000

NAME: Yirra Program
 LOCALITY: Metropolitan area
 SERVICE TYPE: A drug and alcohol counselling service to youth and their families.
 FUNDING: \$62,000

NAME: Youth Legal Service
 LOCALITY: State wide
 SERVICE TYPE: Provides an information and advice service to youth and their families who are in contact with the Children's Court
 FUNDING: \$115,000

NAME: Wyndham Youth Service Inc
 LOCALITY: Wyndham
 SERVICE TYPE: Preventive constructive youth activities.
 FUNDING: \$100,000

ARTS AND CULTURE, PROMOTION IN REGIONAL AREAS

381. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) What initiatives is the Government taking to promote and develop the arts in regional Western Australia?
- (2) What projects, programs or initiatives is the Government taking in each town or location to promote the arts?
- (3) What amount of money has been allocated to each town or location to promote the arts?
- (4) What is the project or program for which funds have been allocated?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Minister for the Arts has provided the following response:

ARTSWA

- (1) The Minister for the Arts has increased funding for regional arts activities in several ways. He has:

Encouraged the amalgamation of the West Australian Arts Council and the Performing Arts Touring & Information Service to form Country Arts WA. In doing this, he increased the funds available for country areas by providing an additional \$100,000 for incentive funding for the four major regional Arts Councils (matched dollar for dollar by local government), \$25,000 for literature tours, \$25,000 for contemporary music tours. The total funding for Country Arts WA is now \$910,000 per year. Increased funding was provided to Art on the Move to manage regional touring of visual arts exhibitions by \$30,000 per year;

Increased funding for a range of the major Arts Agencies which has enabled them to increase their services to regional WA. For example, an additional \$250,000 per year to the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (matched by the Federal Government) which allowed the orchestra to undertake a range of new activities including touring, Community Arts Network received \$50,000 per year for a local government officer to facilitate cultural planning in regional areas;

Introduced Incentive Funding for theatre companies which allowed them to develop projects for reward. Among these projects is the capacity to reward the companies two dollars for each dollar raised for country tours;

Advocated strongly for WA to receive a significant amount of the Federal Regional Arts Funds. WA received \$900,000 over two years for a range of initiatives, and will receive a further \$750,000 over the next two financial years;

Provided \$50,000 per year for Aboriginal Cultural Centre feasibility studies and programs; and

Provided \$90,000 for country areas for cultural planning and projects linked to the plans.

Undertaken field trips in partnership with the Office of Aboriginal Economic Development to promote programs for Aboriginal arts and cultural development.

- (2) Please refer to the attached annual reports for ArtsWA, Country Arts WA, Community Arts Network and Art on the Move for further details of support for each town.

- (3) The following funding has been approved through ArtsWA direct funding programs for regional towns so far during 1999.

Mogumber	\$3,700
Guilderton	\$9,600
Tincurrin	\$400
Prevelly	\$3,930
Margaret River	\$3,000
Bunbury	\$1,000
Geraldton	\$6,760
Mullewa	\$3,000
Yallingup	\$5,000
Denmark	\$2,415
Boulder	\$8,500

Pinjarra	\$5,000	
Albany	\$46,500	
Dalwallinu	\$1,480	
Kellerberrin	\$10,000	
Broome	\$204,930	
Wyndham	\$8,800	
Kununurra	\$1,500	
Halls Creek	\$7,000	
Fitzroy Crossing	\$13,700	\$346,215

Please refer to the attached annual reports for ArtsWA, Country Arts WA, Community Arts Network and Art on the Move for further details of support for each town.

(4) The following projects or programs are involved.

Mogumber	\$3,700 to Moore River Aboriginal Corporation for cultural events during "Back To Mogumber" day.
Guilderton	\$9,600 to Guilderton Community Association to co-ordinate an artist-in-residence program in Guilderton.
Tincurrin	\$400 towards the costs of Ms Michelle Thomson attending pre-tour rehearsals with the Gondwana Voices choir.
Prevelly	\$3,250 for Mr Roger Woodward to take part in an international art exhibition in England \$680 towards the costs of Ms Susan Gibson presenting a workshop and theatre performance at the NADIE conference in Darwin.
Margaret River:	\$3,000 to the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River for a memorial sculpture project.
Bunbury	\$1,000 to Ms Deborah Lisson towards the costs of the launch of her new book in Ireland.
Geraldton	\$1,200 towards the expenses of Ms Lois Olney performing in Geraldton at the Sea Jazz Festival. \$560 to Geraldton Regional Library for a creative writing project for young people. \$5,000 to Marra Aboriginal Corporation to hold a collective exhibition of artworks in Kings Park.
Mullewa	\$3,000 to Mullewa Women's Art Project for developmental workshops.
Yallingup	\$5,000 to the Lavengro Design Studio towards the marketing and promotion of its products.
Denmark	\$2,415 for an exhibition by 12 Denmark artists at the Moores Building in Fremantle.
Boulder	\$6,500 to Ms Patricia Little for research and documentation leading to an arts exhibition.
Pinjarra	\$5,000 to Murray Districts Aboriginal Association towards the costs of holding the annual "Back to Pinjarra" cultural festival.
Albany	\$30,000 to Southern Edge Arts for its annual program of arts activities. \$6,500 to Swap Co, for a community cultural exchange between WA and South African artists and communities. \$10,000 to Southern Edge Arts for a training and development project.
Dalwallinu	\$1,480 to Dalwallinu Creative Arts towards the costs of a two day arts festival.
Kellerberrin	\$10,000 to the International Art Space for its annual program of residences, exhibitions, and community projects.
Broome	\$1,000 to Magabala Books towards attendance at the Australian Book Fair in Sydney. \$1,000 to Magabala Books towards representation at the World Indigenous Peoples' Conference in Hawaii. \$1,800 to the group Desert Child to enable performances at the Louis Johnson Media Awards. \$3,000 to the Shire of Broome for a memorial sculpture project. \$730 to Magabala Books for artist Jimmy Pike to attend the Premier's Literary Awards in Perth. \$600 for Mr Michael Torres to attend the Aboriginal category of the WA Song Contest. \$3,300 to Ms Dalisa Pigram for the recording and production of CDs featuring her original songs.

\$5,000 to Modern Dreamtime Dancers to participate in the Australian Youth Dance Festival in Queensland.

\$5,000 to Ms Naomi Pigram for the recording and production of a CD of original songs.

\$142,500 for the annual publishing program of Magabala Books Aboriginal Corporation

\$26,000 to Broome Aboriginal Media Association for the promotion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performers at the "Stompen Ground" festival.

\$15,000 to Broome Musicians' Aboriginal Corporation for a memorial concert raising awareness of the "stolen generation."

Wyndham	\$8,800 to the Wyndham Action Group for its annual cultural festival.
Kununurra	\$1,500 to Kelarriny Arts Centre for artists to attend the opening of an exhibition of their works in Melbourne.
Halls Creek	\$7,000 to Yarliyl Arts Centre towards the costs of a women's cultural festival.
Fitzroy Crossing	\$13,700 to the Kimberley Aboriginal Law & Culture Centre towards the costs of a Kimberley-wide cultural convention developing Aboriginal arts.

In addition to the above the State Government, through ArtsWA, makes an annual investment in the following organisations which provide programs specifically for country areas:

Country Arts WA. \$910,000 per annum for the development and promotion of arts activities throughout regional Western Australia.

Art On The Move \$188,000 per annum for the promotion and exhibition of visual arts and crafts throughout regional Western Australia.

Community Arts Network also manages a devolved funding program which is open to country towns as well as the metropolitan area.

Please refer to the attached annual reports for ArtsWA, Country Arts WA, Community Arts Network and Art on the Move for details of support for each town.

Library and Information Service of Western Australia

- (1) None.
- (2)-(4) Not applicable.

Western Australian Museum

- (1) The Western Australian Museum's regional sites in Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Albany represent a significant extension of services beyond the metropolitan area. The Western Australian Museum is committed to playing its part in the National Conservation Strategy adopted by the Cultural Ministers' Council by providing access to its expertise throughout the State through the Museum Assistance Program. The Western Australian Museum also plays a leading part in the Australian Museums On Line (AMOL) project which aims to foster links between museums in communities across Australia via the internet.
- (2) The regional site museums in Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Albany play a special role in extending display, education and information programs to the Mid-West, Eastern Goldfields and Great southern regions. Construction of a new site for the Geraldton branch in 1999/2000 will allow services delivered from there to be strengthened from 2000/2001 onwards. During 1999/2000 the Museum Assistance Program will continue to offer annual advisory visits and workshops in the Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne, Mid-West, Eastern Goldfields, Wheatbelt, Great Southern and South West Regions.
- (3)-(4) \$313,351 for the ongoing operation of the Geraldton Regional Museum and provision of programs in the Mid-West region. In addition \$6-8m has been committed to the development of the Museum's new site in the current financial year.

\$299,250 for the ongoing operation of the Museum of the Goldfields in Kalgoorlie and provision of programs in the Eastern Goldfields region.

\$282,859 for the ongoing operation of the Albany Residency Museum and provision of programs in the Great Southern region.

\$124,800 has also been allocated for its Museum Assistance Program to provide services to various sorts of bodies through the State that are responsible for elements of the distributed national collection. The Museum Assistance Program does not keep a detailed breakdown of expenditure in metropolitan or regional areas. More than 60% of the Museum Assistance Program's clients are located outside the metropolitan area and the majority of travel costs are due to the field advisory visits conducted in regional areas.

Estimated expenditure providing services to regional areas	\$78,600
Estimated expenditure providing services in the metropolitan area	\$46,200

Art Gallery of Western Australia

- (1) The Art Gallery of Western Australia has a number of initiatives designed to promote arts in regional Western Australia. These include:

A program of loans of works of art from the State Art Collection to regional galleries.

The development of an exhibition of jewellery *Romanticism and Reason: Australian jewellery 1955-1997 from the State Art Collection* which is being toured by Art on the Move to a number of regional centres. This exhibition is designed to overcome many of the restrictions with touring works from the State Art Collection more widely to "B" and "C" class venues.

The establishment of a forum of regional gallery directors from Geraldton, Esperance, Kalgoorlie, Bunbury, Albany and Karratha and Art on the Move. The forum will meet twice a year and its aim is to enable more aspects of the Gallery's programs and works from the State Art Collection to be accessed by regions.

The Gallery's annual *Year 12 Perspectives* exhibition tours to regional galleries, and with support from a new sponsor, the exhibition will tour to five regional centres next year, in collaboration with Art on the Move. The Gallery also sends an Education Officer to regional centres to deliver professional development workshops for high school teachers in support of the exhibition.

The development of a major project with the Warburton community to present an exhibition in Perth during the Festival of Perth 2000. This exhibition, in addition to featuring paintings, is envisaged to include between 6-10 Aboriginal artists working in the Gallery for approximately one week during the Festival period. The Gallery is also, through the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet, providing professional advice and potentially will be involved in developing the presentation of an exhibition of paintings from the Spinifex Arts Project for presentation in Perth and a tour to regional centres.

The Gallery supports the School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) by providing access to resource materials and reproduction of works in the State Art Collection as well as education study guides for their schools curricular materials, and teaching aids. In consultation with Gallery staff, SIDE has also filmed parts of the Gallery's design collection for a training video.

- (2) Programs conducted by the regional galleries at Bunbury and Geraldton promote the arts in their regions. A wide range of exhibitions, education and public programs are presented including some of the following:

Bunbury

The establishment of ArtClub for children including weekend and holiday workshops.

The presentation of a combined South West high schools exhibition *Iluka Visions*.

The presentation of annual exhibitions from the region including the South West Survey and the Bunbury Biennale. The participation in regional programs such as Visions Arts Training Camp and the stART program for people with disabilities.

Geraldton

The planning of an exhibition focusing on the people and the town of Northampton, that has works from local collections and will involve workshops in the town of Northampton.

A regional trip to Mt Magnet, Sandstone, Wiluna, Meekatharra, Cue, Murchison and Yalgoo, including school visits with works of art from the City of Geraldton.

A youth banner project with art and banner designs by students from high schools in Geraldton, Mullewa and Kalbarri.

Two exhibitions that focus on the Abrolhos Islands and the families working in the crayfishing industry.

- (3) The Art Gallery of Western Australia contributes funds to regional galleries that assist with the provision of programs in their regions. In 1999/2000 the following funds will be provided:

Bunbury	\$145,060
Geraldton	\$148,464

- (4) The funds have been provided as part of the Art Gallery's regional servicing program.

Perth Theatre Trust

- (1)-(4) None.

ScreenWest

- (1)-(4) None.

- (1)-(4) See papers Nos 118 to 121.]

PRISONERS, SOURCES OF DRUG SUPPLY

386. Mr PENDAL to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Have investigations been carried out into the sources of drugs used illicitly by prisoners in Western Australian jails?
- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, what sources of supply have been identified?
- (3) What authority/persons conducted the investigations?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

- (1) The Ministry of Justice conducts regular investigations into the sources of drugs used illicitly by prisoners in the West Australian Prison System.
- (2) The main sources of supply have been identified as members of the public trafficking the drugs to prisoners during visits.
- (3) The Ministry of Justice Internal Investigations and Intelligence Units, Prison Security Officers and the W A Police Service conduct investigations into these issues.

BATAVIA PORTICO, REPLICA

388. Mr PENDAL to the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) Is it correct that a replica of the *Batavia* portico is in the process of being made?
- (2) If so, is it still intended that the original portico should return to Geraldton when the new museum is completed, in line with the report of the Select Committee on Ancient Shipwrecks?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Minister for the Arts has forwarded the following response:

- (1) No, but planning is under way
- (2) Yes.

RAILWAY SLEEPERS, FIRST-GRADE TIMBER

391. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has a contract been awarded for tender number 93/98 for the supply and delivery of 30,000 Type A and 5,000 Type B First Grade Timber Railway sleepers?
- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes -
 - (a) to whom was the contract awarded;
 - (b) on what date was the contract awarded;
 - (c) how many tenders were received;
 - (d) what was the cost of the contract; and
 - (e) what percentage, if any, of Karri sleepers will be supplied by the contractor?
- (3) If the answer to (1) above is no, when is it anticipated that the contract will be awarded?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Hon Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a)-(b) Contracts were awarded to ten companies on 29 January 1999 as follows:

Company	Type A Sleepers	Type B Sleepers
Gatti Sawmill Pty Ltd	3 000	620
Colli and Sons	5 000	3 000
Rocky Gully Sawmills Pty Ltd	3 600	
Bunnings Forrest Products	4 300	
Mangee Milling (WA) Pty Ltd	1 630	
Whiteland Milling	3 052	300
K D Power and Company	2 000	
J A House Sawmilling and Grazing Pty Ltd	2 270	1 080
Coli Timber Merchants	3 580	
Tilbrook Sawmill	1 568	
(c) Twelve.		
(d) The total cost of the ten contracts awarded is \$781 042.		
(e) Fourteen per cent.		

- (3) Not applicable.

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL EMPLOYEES HOUSING AUTHORITY, CHARGES AGAINST MR WILLIAM BLACKBURN

393. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Have the 41 charges of corruption against William Blackburn, formerly the Manager of the ICEHA, yet been set down for trial?
- (2) If yes, what is the date of that trial?
- (3) If no, why not?
- (4) When does the Minister expect the trial date to be set?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) No. Mr William Blackburn has been indicted on only 25 charges, not 41.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The District Court of Western Australia has not allocated a trial date.
- (4) Mr Blackburn's next appearance is on 20 October 1999 (second status conference), when the Court may set a trial date.

OAKAJEE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, McDONALD HALES & ASSOCIATES TENDER

394. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister for Resources Development:

- (1) Who apart from McDonald Hales tendered for the contract for the management plan for the Oakajee Port and Industrial Estate?
- (2) Had these other tenderers previously done similar work in this area?
- (3) Have McDonald Hales finalised work on the contract for the management plan for the Oakajee Port and Industrial Estate?
- (4) Have the activities of McDonald Hales led to protests, particularly from local Aboriginal groups and developers?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) There has been no tender let for a management plan for the Oakajee Port and Industrial Estate. A tender was let for a Heritage Management Plan for the Oakajee Industrial Estate and Port. Apart from McDonald Hales and Associates a tender was submitted by Tamora Pty Ltd.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) No.
- (4) Yes. One local Aboriginal group has protested. All other local Aboriginal groups are participating in the preparation of the Heritage Management Plan.

EPIC GAS PIPELINE, KARRATHA-PERTH, HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

395. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister for Resources Development:

- (1) When was the contract for the heritage management plan for the Epic Gas pipeline from Karratha to Perth awarded?
- (2) Was it put out to tender prior to it being awarded?
- (3) Was the contract put out to tender after the original award?
- (4) If so, why was the tender called for at that point, rather than previously?
- (5) Was the officer responsible for awarding the contract the same officer responsible for awarding the contract for the management plan for the Oakajee Port and Industrial Estate?
- (6) With regard to the contract for the heritage management plan for the Epic Gas pipeline from Karratha to Perth, was the tender from McDonald Hales the cheapest tender?
- (7) If not, by how much did the McDonald Hales tender exceed the lowest tender?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) 16 March 1999.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) No.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) No.
- (6) The McDonald Hales tender was part of a tender submitted by Dames and Moore Pty Ltd. The Dames and Moore Pty Ltd submission was considered to provide the best value for money.
- (7) Not applicable.

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, POLICY ON ACCEPTING HOSPITALITY FROM CONSULTANTS

396. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister for Resources Development:

- (1) What is the policy of the Department concerning the acceptance of hospitality from prospective consultants by officers having responsibility for awarding tenders to consultants?

- (2) Is the Department aware of any instances in the past three years where prospective consultants have regularly provided expensive hospitality to officers with responsibility for the allocation and supervision of contracts?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) The Department's policy concerning the acceptance of hospitality from prospective consultants by officers having responsibility for awarding tenders to consultants is as follows:

"Offers of free meals, entertainment and the like should never be accepted immediately prior to or during negotiations with suppliers or potential suppliers. They may be accepted, subject to the conditions below, after the business is concluded.

Free meals, entertainment and the like that could be regarded as lavish or frequent are not to be accepted.

The officer receiving the offer must advise his or her director when such an offer is received. The director will decide, having regard to this policy, if it is appropriate to accept the offer."

- (2) No.

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITALS, EXECUTIVE STRUCTURE

398. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Health:

With reference to question on notice No. 3257 (subsequently reinstated as question on notice No. 192) of 1999 -

- (a) why was the decision taken to abolish the three Executive Director positions at King Edward Memorial Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital before Mrs Helen Hardcastle was engaged to facilitate discussions and collect information on the future organisational arrangements of executive functions within the hospitals;
- (b) has Mrs Hardcastle met with the three executive directors;
- (c) if the answer to (2) above is yes, when; and
- (d) what were the conditions under which Mrs Hardcastle was employed as a facilitator?

Mr DAY replied:

- (a) The decision to abolish the positions was taken after it became apparent, through internal and external consultation and information gathering, that many of the functions performed by the Executive Director positions could be more realistically and cost effectively performed by Directors within Clinical Care Units operating under the organisation's devolved management structure. In the case of the Executive Director, Corporate Services position, the awarding in 1998 of a contract for the management of finance responsibilities had had a significant impact. The timing of the decision and the advice to the officers concerned was influenced also by the fact that the employment contracts of two of the Executive Directors were due for evaluation in advance of their expiration at the end of 1999.
- (b) No.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Ms Hardcastle was engaged to provide facilitation services. The term of her assignment was 10 to 12 days.

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITALS, MR JERRY CASSIS

399. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Under what conditions was Mr Jerry Cassis appointed to Princess Margaret (PMG) and King Edward Memorial Hospitals (KEMH)?
- (2) What position does he hold?
- (3) What are Mr Cassis' qualifications?
- (4) When did Mr Cassis commence his appointment at PMH and KEMH?
- (5) What is the duration of his appointment?
- (6) Was the position advertised?
- (7) If the answer to (6) above is no, why not?
- (8) What are Mr Cassis' responsibilities?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Mr Cassis was a fixed term employee employed under the terms of the Metropolitan Health Service Board, King Edward Memorial and Princess Margaret Hospitals Workplace Agreement.
- (2) Mr Cassis' fixed term contract is now complete. His position was Executive Project Officer.

- (3) Mr Cassis has had over 20 years experience in health.
- (4) 22 February 1999.
- (5) Mr Cassis was appointed for the period from 22 February to 22 May 1999. Mr Cassis' appointment was extended by one month and terminated on 20 June 1999.
- (6) No.
- (7) Mr Cassis' appointment was a short term one only (initially less than 3 months). It was determined that advertising was not justifiable.
- (8) Mr Cassis was collecting and collating data relative to financial and FTE information for strategic planning purposes.

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITALS, CONSULTANTS

401. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Health:

- (1) How many consultants to the administration of Princess Margaret and King Edward Memorial Hospitals have been engaged since 1 February 1999?
- (2) Who are the consultants?
- (3) What is the purpose of each consultancy?
- (4) What is the cost of each consultancy?
- (5) What is the duration of each consultancy?
- (6) What are the terms of reference of each consultancy?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) 12.
- (2)-(6) Jim Lowth & Associates Management Consultants
Review of hospital-wide finances
\$12,117
March 1999
External audit and review of hospital-wide finances

ECRI
Clinical equipment audit and strategic plan
\$381,150
May - June 1999
Clinical equipment audit and strategic plan

Alan Jones & Associates
Benchmarking PMH - (Funded by HDWA)
Benchmarking KEMH - (Funded by HDWA)
\$25,858
April - June 1999
Staffing review and benchmarking

Symonds
Preparation of Property Market Appraisal report
\$2,959
March 1999
Preparation of an assessment of the value of properties including 2 residential properties on Bagot Road, Subiaco, car park facilities, commercial premises at Rheola St West Perth.

Clinical equipment valuations
\$76,000
May, June 1999
Provision of advice and development of options.
Kitchen Review
\$7,250
April, May, June 1999
Establishment of an integrated kitchen for KEM/PMH.

Parking study
\$15,280
May 1999
Identification of car parking demand; identification of existing facilities; competing facilities and development of options with preliminary costs, revenues and risk analysis.

Accommodation study plans
\$82,394
May, June, July
Review of existing core and non-core services and accommodation on the KEMH/PMH sites; develop view of infrastructure specification required to support projected core service delivery/demand; develop view of

infrastructure specification for non-core services accommodation; undertake economic analysis and feasibility study to determine preferred option; develop achievable implementation plan and conceptual program.

Allen Gomes
Psychological Clinical Care Unit at PMH
Technical advice on quality improvement funding
Mental Health Division
\$3,575

February - April 1999

Specific QI project funded by Mental Health Division to set up, implement and analyse consumer feedback questionnaire and also research data.

Hames Sharley
Outpatient ward design
\$160,000
February - August 1999
Prepare tender documents for Outpatient Clinics at KEMH.

Catering integration project
\$17,510
February - March 1999
Develop tender documents and project management of the modification to the kitchens at KEM/PMH.

Dillinger Group Development Pty Ltd
HR consulting for classification assessment
\$1,800
February - March 1999
Conduct review of reclassification requests.

Energetics
Energy scoping study
\$24,422
March - May 1999
Generation and Utilisation

Smith Tucker Property Services
Investigation of accommodation for Selby Clinic
\$1,700
March 1999
Employed by Gary Parker as consultant to Mental Health Division for the relocation of all Selby Services. This particular consultant looked at the viability of short term/long term relocation of premises for Selby Outpatient Clinic.

Kitty George
Pathology Quality Consultant for ISO guidelines
\$4,575
April - June 1999
The consultancy was set up in order to ensure that KEMH/PMH labs were able to meet ISO 25 standards which on 1/1/00 will be the essential minimum standard for pathology labs to achieve NATA accreditation which is itself a mandatory requirement for operating diagnostic labs in Australia.

Holton Connor
Consultant Respiratory Medicine and Gastroenterology
\$2,000
May - June 1999
Architectural drawings for the modification of the kitchen staff change rooms and kitchen storage area into offices for the Gastroenterology and Rheumatology Departments.

Silver Thomas Handley
Wds 8A and 9A
\$10,800
May - June 1999
Preparation of preliminary architectural drawings and estimates for the redevelopment of Wds 8A and 9A.

Paediatric Cardiac Centre
\$4,600
May - June 1999
Preparation of preliminary architectural drawings and estimates for the construction of a WA Paediatric Cardiac Centre at PMH.

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL AND PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITALS, FACILITATORS

402. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Health:

- (1) With reference to question on notice No. 3257 (subsequently reinstated as question on notice No. 192) of 1999, how many facilitators have been engaged by Princess Margaret and King Edward Memorial Hospitals have been engaged since 1 February 1999?
- (2) Who are the facilitators?
- (3) What is the purpose of each facilitation?

- (4) What is the cost of each facilitation?
- (5) What is the duration of each facilitation?
- (6) What are the terms of reference of each facilitation?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Two.
- (2) Mrs Helen Hardcastle and Mr Kevin Hardy.
- (3) Mrs Hardcastle was engaged to facilitate discussions and collect information on the future organisational arrangements of executive functions within the Hospitals.
Mr Hardy was engaged to facilitate two day long workshops.
- (4)

Mrs Hardcastle	\$7,250
Mr Hardy	\$12,727
- (5)

Mrs Hardcastle	12 days
Mr Hardy	2 days
- (6) Mrs Hardcastle was engaged to facilitate discussions and collect information on the future organisational arrangements of executive functions within the Hospitals.
Mr Hardy was engaged to facilitate two day long workshops.

DRILLING & GROUTING SERVICES PTY LTD, CONTRACTS WITH WATER CORPORATION

405. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister for Water Resources:

I refer to Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd and their contracts with the Water Corporation and ask -

- (a) why are these contractual arrangements in place;
- (b) why are Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd using State Government number plated vehicles;
- (c) were all tenderers to these contracts aware that these vehicles would be supplied to ensure Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd received no competitive advantage;
- (d) who holds the third party insurance liability for these vehicles;
- (e) have there been any traffic accidents or damage involving State Government plated vehicles in the use of Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd;
- (f) what are the leasing rates of these vehicles and how were they calculated;
- (g) are normal commercial rates for stamp duty and licence included in these lease rates;
- (h) is there any cost at all to the taxpayer, either direct or indirect;
- (i) if so, how much;
- (j) how is control maintained over the condition and value of the fleet;
- (k) does this give any additional profit to Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd;
- (l) do Government leasing contracts allow for this assignment/sub-leasing;
- (m) is Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd obtaining the benefit of sales tax free leasing;
- (n) is Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd obtaining the benefit of Government purchasing discounts;
- (o) what other plant, equipment or vehicles owned by the Government have been supplied;
- (p) how many other contractors have been supplied Government vehicles;
- (q) are traffic and speeding infringements being paid for by the private company or the taxpayer; and
- (r) how many State Government vehicles are in the hands of private companies?

Dr HAMES replied:

- (a) The contract between the Water Corporation and Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd was formed following a decision, taken in 1995 by the then Water Authority of Western Australia, to outsource the provision of a number of services formerly carried out by full time Water Authority employees. As a result of a Registration of Interest in May 1995 Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd were among the companies invited to tender for the provision of drilling services to the Water Corporation. Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd were the successful tenderer for the contract which became effective in January 1996 when the Water Authority became the Water Corporation.
- (b) The vehicles are owned by the Water Corporation and leased to Drilling and Grouting Services.
- (c) Yes.

- (d) GIO Insurance.
- (e) Yes.
- (f)-(g) Commercial in confidence.
- (h) No.
- (i) Not applicable
- (j) The contractor successfully complies with a formal maintenance and reporting programme required under the terms of the contract.
- (k) No.
- (l) This is not an issue. The plant and equipment leased to Drilling and Grouting Services is owned by the Water Corporation and is not the subject of a Government leasing contract.
- (m)-(n) No.
- (o) See the following for details of plant, equipment and vehicles hired to Drilling and Grouting Services. Some additional plant and equipment was sold to Drilling and Grouting Services at the commencement of the contract at market rates -

Water Corporation Plant, Equipment and Vehicles on hire to Drilling and Grouting Services Pty Ltd

DRILLING RIGS AND MOUNTS

GEMCO H13
6QI 867 Isuzu truck mounted

WALKER NEER
UQW 777 Tandem trailer mounted

GEMCO HT13
XQK 818 Ford tractor mounted

ROMAMEC 1302
8QF 398 Internat truck mount

EDSON 7000
6QF 924 Mack truck mounted

HYDROMASTER 750
6QJ 382 Isuzu truck mounted

CUSTOM BUILT DT2
7QA 054 Man truck mounted

TRUCKS 6x6 8x8

MERCEDES 6x6
7QH 256 Hiab Crane

MERCEDES 6x6
6QU 429 Hiab Crane

MAN 6x6
7QA 104 Hiab Crane

MAN 8x8
8QF 302 Hiab Crane

TRUCKS 4x2 6x4

MERCEDES 6x4
6QF 302 Hiab Crane

MERCEDES 6x4
6QF 304 Hiab Crane

MAZDA 4x2
7QI 344 Keverek Crane

UD NISSAN 4x2

TRUCKS 4x4

HINO 4x4
6QK 253 Hiab Crane

ISUZU 4x4
6QI 880 Hiab Crane

AIR COMPRESSORS

SULLAIR 750/350
6896

SULLAIR 750/350
10941

SULLAIR 900/350
7248
ATLAS COPCO
15750

CARAVANS

ROPA K.+ 1 BERTH
7QT 051
ROPA K.+ 1 BERTH
8QU 279
ROPA K. + 1 BERTH
8QU 280
ROPA K. + 1 BERTH
7QT 052
ROPA K. + 2 BERTH
8QU 281
ROPA K. + 2 BERTH
7QT 053
MODERN 3 BERTH
6QT 841
MODERN 3 BERTH
6QT 842
MODERN 3 BERTH
6QT 843

FORKLIFTS AND BACKHOES

KOMATSU FORKLIFT
11519
MITSUBISHI
FORKLIFT
MF BACKHOE
11655

TRAILERS (CCF)

BOX TRAILER
XQW371
FUEL TRAILER
8QT 414
PIG TRAILER
XQW658
6M SEMI TRAILER
XQT661
SINGLE AXLE DOLLY
XQU599
TANDEM AXLE SEMI
XQW 284

Item No Description

	ODEX
1	215 Odex Assembly
	Hole Openers
2	20 – 508mm – body
3	22 – 5590mm – body
4	26 – 660mm – body
	ROTARY DRILL STRINGS
5	183m 3m 75mm – 2 3/8 REG
6	1470m 6m 75mm – 2 3/8 REG
7	60m 3m 101mm – 2 7/8 IF
8	111m 3m 101mm – 2 7/8 IF
9	95m 5m 89mm – 2 3/8 IF
10	384m 6m 114mm – 2 7/8 IF
11	243m 4.5m – 2 3/8 MAYHEW
12	360m 6m 73mm – 2 7/8 IF UPSET Joints
13	287m 6m 89mm – 3 1/2 IF UPSET Joints
14	60m 6m 168mm – 4 1/2 IF
	DIAMOND DRILLING EQUIPMENT
15	Items 61 to 61D are Diamec Drill Rig & parts
16	SQ Kit complete
17	LM 22 Kits – LTK 46, TT 56 Kits
18	2 x NQ, 2 x HQ, 1 x PQ Kits

AUGER DRILLING EQUIPMENT

- 19 Assorted Auger, TWT & SPT spares, subs & dies
- 20 Inner rods and 1 bit
- 21 3" inner rods and 5 bits
- 22 3" augers and lead auger
- 23 3" augers
- 24 3" augers and 2 lead augers
- 25 12" solid augers
- 26 3" solid augers
- 27 4" solid augers
- 28 4" augers and 1 lead auger

RC DRILLING EQUIPMENT

- 29 RC equipment – swivel bits, cross over
- 30 121mm RC x 6 metre rods
- 31 121mm RC x 3 metre rods and 46 no. 1.5 mtr rods
- 32 114mm RC rods

WALKER NEER RIG EQUIPMENT

- 33 King swivel and manifold – spare for rig – part of rig
- 34 Warman 6/4 D SC pump – part of rig
- 35 Warman 6/4 D SC pump – auxiliary to rig

SMALL HIGH PRESSURE PUMPS

- 36 Bean L09 Deutz 1 cyl
- 37 Bean L11 – Jetting – Hydraulic
- 38 Bean R6 – 60F Jetting – Hydraulic
- 39 Bean R6 – 60F Jetting – Hydraulic

LARGE HIGH PRESSURE PUMPS

- 40 G.D. FGAG Air – 5 x 6
- 41 G.D. FXFXX 7.5 x 8
- 42 G.D. FYFXDG Hydraulic 7.5 x 10 – W/N Mud trailer
- 43 G.D. FDFXDH Hydraulic 5.5 x 10
- 44 G.D. FDFXDH Hydraulic 5.5 x 10
- 45 G.D. FGFXXG Hydraulic 5 x 6
- 46 G.D. FGFXXG Hydraulic 5 x 6
- 47 G.D. FGFXXG 5 x 6 - DT2 rig
- 48 G.D. FCFXX Hydraulic 5 x 8 High Pressure
- 49 G.D. FCFXX Hydraulic 5 x 8 High Pressure
- 50 Bourne P6-5 5 x 6

POWER PACKS

- 51 Kubota D1402 Hydraulic P/P – No. 350
- 52 Diamec Electric P/P – No. 362
- 53 Diamec Deutz F3L – 912 Hydraulic P/P – No. 364
- 54 Deutz F3L-912 – No. 363
- 55 Deutz F4L-912 Hydraulic P/P – No. 368
- 56 Deutz F4L-912 motor only P/P – No. 369
- 57 Deutz F5L-912 Hydraulic P/P – No. 450
- 58 Deutz F5L-912 Hydraulic P/P – No. 451
- 59 CAT 3306PG Hydraulic P/P No. 462
- 60 GM 8.2 LT Hydraulic P/P No. 480
- 61 GM 8.2 LT Hydraulic P/P No. 485

TEST PUMPING EQUIPMENT

- 62 40 hp 3 ph pump, soft start switch gear
- 63 4" Galv AWW Casing – Pump column for 40HP elec sub pump
- 64 Ornel pump 8"
- 65 Ornel 8" pump column, seals and elevators etc.
- 66 Volvo 6 cylinder diesel engine Power Pack for Ornel 8"
- 67 45mm Electric Sampling Pump

- (p) Three.
- (q) Drilling and Grouting Services.
- (r) Besides Drilling and Grouting Services, three other contractors are supplied with Water Corporation vehicles. The total for the four contractors is approximately three hundred and thirty one vehicles.

POLICE, ARREST OF MR JIM DEAN

417. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the arrest of a Mr Jim Dean of Geraldton on a stealing charge?
- (2) Why was Mr Dean arrested on an argument involving property?
- (3) What are the police orders relating to this crime?
- (4) How was Mr Dean conveyed to the Geraldton Police Station?
- (5) Is it true that Mr Dean complained of chest pains whilst being arrested and also being interviewed?

- (6) What are the instructions to police when a person requests medical attention?
- (7) Were these instructions followed in this case?
- (8) What is the Western Australian Police Service instruction on smoking in police vehicles?
- (9) Did the arresting officer breach this instruction?
- (10) Will the Minister confirm that an altercation happened between Mr Dean and the arresting officer in a barber shop in Geraldton in which another senior police officer was present?
- (11) If so, what action has been taken?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(7), (9)-(11) The questions asked by the member for Midland are currently subject of a Police Internal Investigation. In the interests of consistency it would be premature of this service to provide answers which are relevant and may be associated with the inquiry, prior to its completion. Of relevance also is the issue of review of the Police Investigation by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations. Upon review by the Ombudsman answers will be provided when his report is received.
- (8) Policy exists - Smoking prohibited in all police vehicles.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES DEVELOPMENT SCHEME, ORGANISATIONS ASSISTED

418. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) In the 1998/99 financial year how much was made available to organisations that applied for financial assistance under the Information and Communications Services Development Scheme (ICSD Scheme)?
- (2) What was the name of each organisation that received assistance?
- (3) How much was received by each organisation?
- (4) Were the funds provided under the -
 - (a) Community Access Projects;
 - (b) Business Innovation Review; and/or
 - (c) Information and Communications Services Planning,
 category of the scheme?
- (5) Of the amounts allocated to each organisation, how much was allocated to each organisation under the allowable amounts for -
 - (a) information and communications equipment or services;
 - (b) consultancy and research;
 - (c) salaries; and
 - (d) other special projects?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) \$72 341.
- (2) Shire of Yalgoo
Shire of Westonia
Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC)
South West Development Commission (SWDC)
Peel Development Commission (PDC)
- (3) Shire of Yalgoo: \$7 271
Shire of Westonia: \$5 070
\$20 000 each to the three development commissions named above
- (4) (a) \$12 341 (Shires of Yalgoo and Westonia)
(b) \$20 000 (WDC)
(c) \$40 000 (SWDC & PDC)
- (5) (a) 12 341 (Shire of Yalgoo \$7 271 and Shire of Westonia \$5 070)
(b) \$40 000 (WDC \$20 000 and PDC \$20 000)
(c) \$20 000 (SWDC)
(d) Nil.

ROYAL ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICES, COMPLAINTS ON RULE OBSERVANCE

419. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of complaints from members of the Royal Association of Justices concerning the

administration and conduct of the council of that organisation in respect to rule observance particularly secret voting?

- (2) Has the Minister received one or more complaints from members of the Association about this matter?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the rules of the Association only provide for postal voting with no ballot material being issued with counterfoil envelopes, no returning officer nominated, no opening or closing date or time of the ballot being stipulated with no provisions for scrutineers for any counting?
- (4) Is the Minister also aware of claims that the Association's committee of management, to overcome the definitions in the rules with respect to voting procedures, utilised by-laws by amending (the by-laws) at their discretion and without consultation with members of the Association?
- (5) Has the Minister called for this situation to be investigated?
- (6) Is it true that the voting procedures were changed by the committee of management without reference to the members?
- (7) Is the Minister also aware that members who requested to be in attendance at the counting of the ballot have -
 - (a) been refused permission to sight the returned ballot papers after the declaration of the ballot; and
 - (b) not been advised or informed of the number of ballot papers issued and returned, and the number of valid and invalid ballot papers?
- (8) Does the Government intend to introduce any legislation to govern the conduct of such ballots to ensure they are properly conducted in future?
- (9) If not, why not?
- (10) In view of the Government's attitude towards secret ballots and democracy of organisations registered under the Industrial Relations Act 1979, does the Minister intend to carry out or have carried out, inquire into these irregularities?
- (11) If so, when?
- (12) If not, why not?
- (13) Have such inquiries been carried out?
- (14) If so, by whom?
- (15) What was the result of the inquiries?
- (16) Do the inquiries reveal any irregularities?
- (17) What was the nature of the irregularities?
- (18) What action does the Government intend to take to ensure these irregularities are rectified?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply.

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3)-(4) The Royal Association of Justices is an independent incorporated body and as such its rules and process are not subject to scrutiny by the Attorney General.
- (5) No. See 3.
- (6) Unknown. See 3.
- (7) Unknown.
- (8) No.
- (9) See 3.
- (10) No. The *Industrial Relations Act 1979* does not have relevance in these matters.
- (11)-(18) Not applicable.

WEDGE ISLAND, COASTAL HERITAGE VILLAGE

422. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a submission by the Wedge Island Protection Association Incorporated concerning the proposal for a Coastal Heritage Village at Wedge Island?

- (2) Is the Minister aware that the Association proposal for Wedge Island would see individual cottages remaining along with other tourist and recreational uses managed by the Department of Conservation and Land Management?
- (3) Does the Minister agree the implementation of the Association proposal would have a substantial heritage and recreational benefit?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (1)-(2) I believe the submission to which you refer was sent to the Department of Conservation and Land Management and that agency has formed a committee to address these issues. The Western Australian Tourist Commission is represented on this committee.
- (3) I will await advice from the Committee's deliberations before making comment.

HAMPTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

425. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Has the Government/Minister given any further consideration to locating a Community Police Officer at the Hampton Senior High School?
- (2) If not, will the Government/Minister give consideration to this request?
- (3) What criteria does the Government use to determine where Community Police Officers are located?
- (4) Is the Minister prepared to meet with the school community to discuss the location of a Community Police Officer at Hampton Senior High School?
- (5) If not, why not?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) The allocation of police officers throughout the State is the responsibility of the Commissioner of Police, who, through monitoring measures within the Police Service, deploys staff and resources on a needs basis.
- (2) It would be desirable for placement of a school based police officer at the Hampton Senior High School, however at this time all human resources available to the Mirrabooka Police District are fully committed to other essential areas. Should circumstances alter, consideration to this request would be given.
- (3) Criteria for placement of police officers into the schools program are based on:
 - availability of human resources
 - size of school
 - level of anti social behaviour and crime.
- (4)-(5) Any request by the Hampton Senior High School community to discuss this matter will be considered.

INFILL SEWERAGE PROGRAM, MADDINGTON

428. Ms McHALE to the Minister for Water Resources:

I refer to the Infill Sewerage Program and ask the Minister -

- (a) what suburbs or towns have been or will be targeted for infill sewerage for the financial year 1999-2000;
- (b) were there any previous plans to undertake infill sewerage for the area in Maddington referred to as 5g (Olga Road, Phillip Street and others) in the 1999-2000 financial year;
- (c) when will the infill sewerage program address the area in Maddington referred to as 5g;
- (d) what is the percentage of homes in the metropolitan area which rely on septic tanks as at 30 June 1999;
- (e) how many homes does this represent?

Dr HAMES replied:

- (a) Areas within the following localities have been targeted for infill sewerage in the financial year 1999/2000.

Metropolitan:

Armadale
Bayswater
Morley
East Cannington
Hamilton Hill
Beckenham
Maddington
Bateman
Byford
Gwelup
Scarborough

Kelmscott
Bedford
Kewdale
Queens Park
Beaconsfield
Gosnells
Calista
Booragoon
Carine
Innaloo
Midland

Mount Nasura
Embleton
City Beach
Coollbellup
Hilton
Kenwick
Medina
Kardinya
Dianella
Karrinyup
East Victoria Park

Country:		
Broome	South Bunbury	Broadwater
West Busselton	Brockman	Carnarvon
East Carnarvon	Morgantown	South Carnarvon
Denmark	Donnybrook	Castletown
Esperance	Beachlands	Geraldton
Mahomets Flats	Mount Tarcoola	Spalding
Tarcoola Beach	Utakarra	Port Denison
Falcon	Pemberton	Walpole
Ravenswood	Mount Barker	Quairading
Toodyay	Waroona	

- (b) No – Sewerage Reticulation Area Maddington 5G had been identified early in the Infill Sewerage Program's formulation but was not programmed within the 10 year period between 1994/1995 to 2003/2004. Recent scheduling has enabled this small area to be brought forward into 2000/2001.
- (c) Current planning indicates construction of Maddington 5G will commence after the winter of 2000.
- (d) It is estimated that about 16% of metropolitan houses do not yet have access to the sewerage system and rely on septic tanks.
- (e) This represents about 81,000 residential dwellings.

HOSPITALS, EQUIPMENT AND BED COSTS

430. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the increase in cost of running hospitals under the administration of the Coalition Government and ask -

- (a) is it true that each R400 small cortical screw is worth \$92.00 each;
- (b) how is the extreme cost justified;
- (c) is it true that each R404 small cancellous screw is worth \$104.00 each;
- (d) how is this extreme cost justified;
- (e) how long is this screw;
- (f) what is this screw made from;
- (g) is it true that each G286 piece of wire is worth \$30.00 each;
- (h) how is this extreme cost justified;
- (i) is it true that each R470 cerclage piece of wire is worth \$44.00 each;
- (j) how is this extreme cost justified;
- (k) how long is this piece of wire;
- (l) what is this wire made from;
- (m) is it true that each R489 pelvic plate 5 hole is worth \$506.00 each;
- (n) how is this extreme cost justified;
- (o) how long and wide is the plate;
- (p) what is this plate made of;
- (q) is it true that each G211 6 hole plate is worth \$173.00 each;
- (r) how long and wide is the plate;
- (s) what is this plate made of;
- (t) how many screws does Royal Perth Hospital purchase at a time;
- (u) are tenders called for these items;
- (v) if yes, were these the lowest tenders;
- (w) are the screws made of stainless steel;
- (x) are the screws self tapping;
- (y) are the screws phillips head; and
- (z) why is a person that is admitted to hospital at 11.50pm charged a full days accommodation when they were not allocated a bed until after midnight.

Mr DAY replied:

- (a) Yes.
- (b) The cost of this item is due to the materials which it is manufactured from, the precision of the item and the research involved in its manufacture. The rates charged for the Prosthesis Items are as per "Schedule 5, Benefits Payable In Respect of Surgically Implanted Prostheses & Homograft Items - February 1999 Review", and are determined by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care. These rates are covered by the private health funds for private patients.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) Refer to (b).
- (e) 4mm and 6.5mm. They vary in size for different applications.
- (f) 316L Medical Grade Stainless Steel or Titanium.
- (g) Yes.
- (h) Refer to (b).
- (i) Yes
- (j) Refer to (b).
- (k) This depends on its application.
- (l) 316L Medical Grade Stainless Steel.
- (m) Yes.
- (n) Refer to (b).
- (o) It varies from Width 1mm to 60mm, Length 2mm to 34mm.
- (p) 316L Medical Grade Stainless Steel or Titanium.
- (q) Yes.
- (r) It varies from Width 1mm to 60mm, Length 2mm to 34mm.
- (s) 316L Medical Grade Stainless Steel or Titanium.
- (t) We do not stockpile these items, however we do carry a range of different sizes.
- (u) Yes.
- (v) The items we purchase represent the best value for money through the tendering process as evaluated against specifications and clinical trials in accordance with State Supply Commission Policies and Regulations.
- (w) The screws are made from 316L Medical Grade Stainless Steel or Titanium.
- (x) No.
- (y) Cruciform
- (z) It has been established that a new day is to start at midnight. Should a patient be admitted at 23:50 they would be charged for the day of admission. The time of admission is logged as such when the "intention to admit" has been determined by the medical staff. This does not mean they will be moved to a ward immediately, however, they are occupying a bed in the Emergency Department and are being monitored/cared for by staff. A delay in moving to the ward could result from various reasons such as the stabilisation of a medical condition, need to go direct to theatre, bed movements etc, but they are treated as admitted as the "intention to admit" has been established.

HEALTH, HIV-AIDS PROGRAMS, FUNDING

431. Mr PENDAL to the Minister for Health:

- (1) I refer to the Government's program to combat HIV/AIDS in Western Australia and ask, what is the global figure allocated by the State Government for all such programs?
- (2) Specifically, how is that funding allocated to -
 - (a) Government agencies; and
 - (b) private and/or community agencies?
- (3) Which community organisations are involved in caring directly or indirectly for HIV/AIDS sufferers and what funding do they receive?

- (4) Is the Minister aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese and/or Sisters of St John of God currently fund pastoral care and assistance of around \$160,000 annually for the benefit of HIV/AIDS sufferers, including the care centre at Burswood?
- (5) Does the church receive any assistance from the State to maintain this facility?
- (6) What is the current number of HIV/AIDS sufferers in Western Australia?
- (7) How many males and females in Western Australia are reported to have HIV in the following age categories, for each sex -
- (a) under 20 years;
 - (b) 20 - 30 years;
 - (c) 30 - 40 years;
 - (d) 40 - 50 years;
 - (e) 50 - 60 years; and
 - (f) over 60 years?
- (8) Are these male/female statistics in line with the other States?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) The total money allocated to combat HIV/AIDS in WA through education and prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care programs is estimated at \$11,271,933.
- (2) The funding is allocated to government and non-government programs by assessment of program objectives, and outcomes, which are submitted by each individual organisation's Business Plans.
- (3) The following organisations are involved in caring directly or indirectly for HIV/AIDS patients.

·	AIDS Council	\$1,211,000
·	Silver Chain Association	\$250,700
·	Haemophilia Foundations	\$65,000
·	WA Substance Users Association	\$157,600
·	WA Drug & Alcohol (Next Step)	\$60,000
·	Sexuality Education/Counselling/Consultancy	\$22,000
·	PHOENIX (FPA)	\$212,893
	Total:	\$1,979,193

- (4) Aware of this service provision, but not aware of amount spent on services.
- (5) No.
- (6) The estimated total number of live people diagnosed with HIV in WA is 831.
- (7) The WA breakdown of estimated people alive with HIV/AIDS in 1998 by age and sex: (Source of Data: HDWA Database 1999)

Age Breakdown	Female	Male	Total
Under 20 years	14	22	36
20-29 years	37	288	325
30-39 years	27	255	282
40-49 years	8	129	137
50-59 years	3	37	40
60+ years	1	10	11
Total:	90	741	831

- (8) Number of cumulative HIV infections by sex and State/Territory, 1983 to 31 December 1998. (Source of Data: National HIV database 1999)

State/ Territory	1983 TO 1998		Ratio
	Female	Male	Male to Female
ACT	23	187	8.1
NSW	581	10503	18.0
NT	8	104	13.0
QLD	132	1867	14.1
SA	57	648	11.3
TAS	5	77	15.6
VIC	199	3749	18.8
WA	102	869	8.5
TOTAL	1107	18004	

There is a discrepancy between the National and WA total number of HIV cases (WA – 831 cases compared to the National database of 971). This discrepancy is thought to be due to some recorded duplication of cases. In 1998, 30 per cent of newly diagnosed HIV infections in WA were in females. Nationally the data for 1998 show females to be 15 per cent of newly HIV diagnosed infections indicating that heterosexual transmission is slightly higher in WA (M:F 8.5 :1) compared to most other states.

HOMESWEST, GLENDALOUGH

433. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) What type of development is Homeswest planning for the land between Pollard and Rawling Streets, Glendalough?
- (2) Will any of the development cater for our State's senior citizens?

Dr HAMES replied:

- (1)-(2) Within the precinct, four development sites are allocated for rental and thirteen development sites have been earmarked for sale. Within the rental allocation, construction is underway (commenced 1998/99 financial year) at;

- (i) Lots 98 & 121 Rawlings Street, comprising;
2 x 1b/r aged pensioner units
6 x 2b/r aged pensioner units
4 x 3 b/r family units
- (ii) Lot 101 Pollard Street, comprising;
4 x 3b/r family units

Proposed redevelopment sites when properties become available are;

- (iii) Amalgamated Lots 103-104 Pollard Street. Earmarked for family accommodation and yield based on current zoning upon application.
- (iv) Amalgamated Lots 112-113 Pollard Street. Earmarked for seniors accommodation and yield based on current zoning upon application.

Within the sale component, the remaining Homeswest properties will be sold. This of course is subject to the current tenants wishing to be involved in the redevelopment project.

POLICE, VIDEOTAPES OF PUBLIC EVENTS

445. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:

In relation to the video tapes made by members of the Police Department of public events such as political demonstrations, street marches , public meetings etc -

- (a) for what purpose are the video tapes taken;
- (b) what other State or Commonwealth agencies have access to these tapes;
- (c) how long are the tapes kept by the Police Department; and
- (d) is any attempt made by the police, or any other agency, to identify and record the presence of particular individuals at demonstrations?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (a) The primary reason for recording such public events are-

- (1) for the purpose of obtaining evidence of overt acts that breach the peace; or
- (2) where an arrest is made or likely to be made.
- (b) None.
- (c) If no specific evidential requirement or incident management issue is involved tapes are erased without delay. If required for court, retention is dependent upon court process.
- (d) From a Police Service perspective the only reason for identifying an individual is if that person was suspected of a breach of the law.

POLICE, REGULATION 607(3)(b)

447. Mrs ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Does the Minister intend to review Police Regulation 607(3)(b) which states "a member or cadet shall not canvass the Commissioner or any Minister of the Crown or any officer of the Minister's Department with regard to any matter concerning the force"?
- (2) If so, what is intended?
- (3) Are all police officers free to communicate with their Members of Parliament?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) Have there been any recent incidents whereby Regulation 607(3)(b) has been enforced?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1)-(2) In drafting the new Police Service Bill, all aspects of the Police Force Regulations are being reviewed.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) There are no incidents contained in records held by Professional Standards Portfolio.

HANDGUNS OWNERSHIP, LEGALITY

452. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister for Police:

I refer to Western Australia's gun laws and ask -

- (a) are handguns outlawed in Western Australia;
- (b) if so, which categories;
- (c) who can own handguns in this State;
- (d) are shooting club members able to own handguns;
- (e) what storage requirements are in place in relation to these weapons; and
- (f) will the Government be outlawing these weapons?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (a) No.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Regarding the ownership of handguns, the Firearms Regulations 1974 state:

Genuine need test for category H

- (1) *The applicant is required to satisfy the Commissioner that a firearm of category A, B, or C would be inadequate or unsuitable for the purpose for which the firearm is required.*
- (2) *A person does not have a genuine need to acquire or possess a firearm of category H because it is required for -*
 - (a) *hunting;*
 - (b) *recreational shooting, other than by a person described in paragraph (a) under the heading "Restrictions for category H", and for a purpose described in that paragraph; or*
 - (c) *destroying stock or vermin.*

Restrictions for category H

An approval or permit can be granted or a licence can be issued for a firearm of category H only if -

- (a) *it is for a firearm of category H1, and is granted or issued to a person described in section 11A (2) (a) of the Act who requires the firearm for use as described in that provision for the purpose of training for, and participating in, a club, interclub, State, national, or international shooting discipline;*
- (b) *it is for a firearm of category H2, and is granted or issued to a person who requires the firearm for the purposes of professional or recreational diving;*
- (c) *it is granted or issued to a person who requires it in the course of the person's occupation;*
- (d) *it is granted or issued for the purposes of a firearm of that category forming part of a genuine firearm collection; or*
- (e) *it is granted or issued for Commonwealth or State government purposes.*

- (d) Yes.
- (e) Storage cabinets which comply with the specifications set out in Schedule 4 of the Firearms Regulations.
- (f) No.

POLICE, AEROPLANE IN KALGOORLIE-BOULDER

483. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Police:

I refer to the police aeroplane recently removed from Kalgoorlie-Boulder and ask -

- (a) how often was the plane used during the 3 years up to its sale;
- (b) what where the number of police personnel transported on this plane during that period;
- (c) what will be the cost of this volume of travel now;
- (d) will there be or have there been new guidelines issued with respect to that travel; and
- (e) what consultations have occurred with local police on this issue?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Police Service aircraft referred to is still based at Kalgoorlie and will continue to service the Central Region until sold. However:

- (a) In the last 3 years up to the present, the Beechcraft Baron was used for 483 flights.
- (b) In the last 3 years, a total of 1,361 passengers have travelled on this particular aircraft. To define this figure into police personnel only would require a lengthy manual search of records and the Police Service cannot justify committing sufficient resources to undertake this task.
- (c) Cost will be dependent upon whether such travel is for operational policing or transport and whether the travel is provided by the Air Support Unit, charter, or public transport.
- (d) There have been no new guidelines issued with respect to travel. However, authorisation and approval of travel will be at the discretion of the Regional Commander.
- (e) The decision to sell the aircraft was made by Police Service Command, at which the Commander, Central Police Region is a representative.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS, MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS

490. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests:

- (1) Which Committees and Boards are under the responsibility of the Minister?
- (2) Who are the members of those boards/committees?
- (3) How much are they paid?
- (4) How many women are on those committees/boards?
- (5) What are the specific functions of those boards/committees?

Mr BOARD replied:

- (1) The Western Australian Citizenship and Multicultural Advisory Council.
- (2) Dr Eric G C Tan AM JP - Chairperson
Managing Director, Medical Corporation Australia; Senior Vice-President, Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

Mr Paul Afkos
Chairman, Afkos Industries Pty Ltd; Chairman, Hellenic Council of Australia.

Dr John Bollig
Chairman, Bollig Design Group; Director, Western Australian Overseas Projects Authority.

Ms Ricky Burges
Director General, Ministry of Culture and the Arts.

Mr Michael Daube
Executive Director, Office of Youth Affairs.

Mr Bob Kucera
Assistant Commissioner of Police, WA.

Ms Maureen McDaniell
Public relations and marketing consultant; Managing Director, McDaniell Associates; Immediate Past President, Rotary Club of Perth.

Mrs Brenda Robbins
A/Executive Director, Office of Citizenship and Multicultural Interests.

Mr Ramdas Sankaran
President, Ethnic Communities Council of WA.

Mr Enzo Sirna
Director of Studies, Penrhos College; President, Italo-Australia Cultural and Welfare Centre.

Professor Lance Twomey, AM
Vice-Chancellor, Curtin University.

- (3) Council members can claim a sitting fee of \$86.00 per half day. The chairperson can claim \$130.00 per half day. Government officers are not eligible for the payment.
- (4) Three: Maureen McDaniell
 Ricky Burges
 Brenda Robbins (ex-officio)
- (5) To provide the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests with advice on issues giving significance to the meaning and concept of citizenship and promoting social harmony within the state of Western Australia.

PUBLIC SERVICE EXAMINATION, PURPOSE

493. Mr McGOWAN to the Premier and Minister for Public Service Management:

- (1) What is the main purpose of the Public Service Examination?
- (2) What happens to the results of this examination?
- (3) What types of positions are given to people who have sat and passed this exam?
- (4) How is a selection made when a position becomes available?
- (5) Will the Premier confirm that it is essential that people who are selected for permanent positions within the public sector, have sat and passed the Public Service Examination?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) The Public Sector Recruitment Test is used to establish a pool of applicants who are suitable for entry level employment in the Western Australian Public Sector.
- (2) The results of the test are provided to applicants and successful applicants are invited to send further details, including a resume to the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet.
- (3) Positions are at entry level and include general clerical and word processing work in public sector agencies.
- (4) Agencies who approach the Ministry when a position becomes available are referred 3 applicants who have passed the Public Sector Recruitment Test. The applicants are selected for referral on the basis of availability, and order of merit and possession of the required skills. The agency then makes a selection on merit, in accordance with public sector selection standards.
- (5) Generally, to be eligible for permanent appointment to entry level positions in the public service people must sit and pass the Public Sector Recruitment Test. However, some specialist technical positions or those requiring particular skills are advertised in the press. In those cases, selection is made on merit and applicants are not required to sit the test.

WATER RESOURCES, DALYELLUP

500. Mr OSBORNE to the Minister for Water Resources:

Will the Minister advise -

- (a) has the Water Corporation offered cheaper water and sewerage rates to the developer of Dalyellup than are available in Bunbury or the Perth Metropolitan area;
- (b) what are the standard headworks charges for water and sewer per residential lot in the Dallyellup Estate in Capel Shire;
- (c) do cheaper rates costs mean that Bunbury or Perth Metropolitan areas are subsidising a private developer in Dalyellup; and if so, does the Water Corporation consider it more equitable to lower rates equally to all areas; and
- (d) were Water Corporation rates and headworks charges given as part of a competitive tender?

Dr HAMES replied:

- (a) Water and Sewerage Annual Service Charges and Consumption Charges are consistent with those applied by the Corporation to similar schemes throughout the State.
- (b) Standard Headworks Contributions (SHC) will be applied for sewerage servicing to development in the Dalyellup area as this area is within the existing Water Corporation Licence Sewerage Operating Area. The current sewerage SHC is \$1,447 for residential lots over 600m² in area. As the subject land was outside the Water Corporation's licence area for water supply, developer contribution amounts for water supply services have been determined as

a result of winning a competitive bid between Aqwest and the Water Corporation. The Office of Water Regulation oversaw the bidding process.

- (c) No. The developer contribution for water supply was calculated based on the recovery of all costs and achieving a commercial rate of return on investment. The Dalyellup developer contribution for water supply is lower than Standard Headworks Contribution as the proposed Dalyellup scheme has a relatively low infrastructure cost per service. For commercial reasons the actual water developer contribution figure cannot be made public at this stage.
- (d) The Water Supply Operating Licence for the Dalyellup Area was part of a competitive bid, which was won by the Water Corporation. The Water Corporation's successful bid included Annual Service Charges and Consumption Charges at a rate consistent with similar schemes throughout the State. Developer contribution amounts for water were assessed on a commercial basis specific to this scheme.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING

502. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister for Works; Services:

With regards to Contract and Management Services contract No 110697 for the Provision of Public Relations, Marketing and Marketing Communications Services, what was the value of this contract for the 1998-99 financial year to the following companies -

- (a) 303 Advertising Pty Ltd;
- (b) Marketforce Advertising;
- (c) Marketforce Productions;
- (d) The Brand Agency;
- (e) The Shorter Group;
- (f) Vinten Browning;
- (g) Kapow! Advertising;
- (h) Adlink Advertising;
- (i) Bowtell Clarke and Yole;
- (j) John Davis Advertising Pty Ltd;
- (k) Stratagem Advertising;
- (l) House Advertising; and
- (m) Benchmark Advertising?

Mr BOARD replied:

I am advised that:

Information on the value of Contract No. 110697 for the 1998/99 financial year, based on returns provided by the contractor, is as follows:

- (a) \$78,934
- (b) \$66,119
- (c) \$25,772
- (d) Nil.
- (e) \$82,354
- (f) \$1,040,881
- (g) \$66,000
- (h) Nil.
- (i) \$538,677
- (j) \$1,247,958
- (k) \$50,958
- (l) No such contractor listed on Contract No. 110697
- (m) \$32,200

MINING, "FLOW THROUGH" SHARES SYSTEM

503. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Resources Development:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a briefing paper prepared by the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies Inc. on "The importance of implementing a system of 'flow through' shares as a mineral exploration incentive"?
- (2) Does the Minister/Government intend to fully investigate the scheme to see if it would be of value to the Western Australian mining industry?
- (3) If so, when?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) What further investigations will the Minister undertake?
- (6) Will the Minister/Government make representations to the Federal Government to implement such a system through the Australian taxation system?
- (7) If so, when?
- (8) If not, why not?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) The Association of Mining and Exploration Companies Inc (AMEC) has written to the Prime Minister seeking support for the initiative. A copy of AMEC's paper was sent to me.
- (2) The proposal has been considered by the Australian and New Zealand Minerals and Energy Council (ANZMEC) as part of its deliberations on taxation reform.
- (3)-(5) See (1) and (2) above.
- (6)-(8) At the recent meeting of ANZMEC Ministerial Council, which I chaired, AMEC's proposal was raised with the Federal Minister for Industry, Science and Resources, Senator Nick Minchin. Senator Minchin agreed to consider the proposal.

HEALTH, HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY FOR MEN

513. Ms McHALE to the Minister for Health:

- (1) What is the Government policy on men's health?
- (2) How many men are on Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) in Western Australia?
- (3) Has any research been done on the benefits of HRT for men?
- (4) Is HRT available for men on the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme List?
- (5) If not, why not?
- (6) Has HRT ever been available for men on the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme List?
- (7) If yes, why was it taken off?
- (8) What public treatment facilities are available for men in Western Australia who have hormone deficiencies?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) The Men's Health Policy was launched in October 1997 at the second National Men's Health Conference held in Fremantle. It was the first such policy issued by any Australian State or Territory. The goal of the policy is: "To improve the health and well-being of all males in Western Australia, with a focus on those most at risk, and to encourage the health system to be more aware of and responsive to the needs created by the relationship between health and gender".
- (2) Most HRT is prescribed by general practitioners, therefore the Health Department of Western Australia has no access to information about the number of men being treated.
- (3) Yes. Current research into HRT (androgen replacement) for men suggests that hormone replacement is an option in the treatment of men with established low testosterone levels. Primarily, the prevalence of low levels of testosterone is concentrated in men sixty-five years and older. It has been estimated that twenty per cent of all men over the age of 65 will eventually develop low testosterone levels. Symptoms include fatigue, decreased energy, depression, decreased muscle mass, osteoporosis and decreased sexual function. The effectiveness and suitability of HRT as a means of treating these symptoms is not entirely conclusive. There are some concerns that HRT treatment (with testosterone) will accelerate the growth rate of prostate cancer in affected individuals.
- (4) Yes. Several formulations of testosterone are listed on PBS. In the past, the PBS subsidy was only available when prescribed for the treatment of Klinefelter's Syndrome (a chromosomal disorder in men) or Hypogonadism. Recent changes effective 1 August 1999, make the subsidy available and apply different criteria, namely:
 - Men over 40 years with low blood testosterone levels confirmed on two morning samples; or
 - constitutional delay in growth or puberty in males under 18 years.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Yes, but always for specified conditions and thus an authority script.
- (7) It has not been taken off the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme.
- (8) The nature of the symptoms that have been associated with hormone deficiency makes it appropriate for the majority of treatment to be delivered by general practitioners. Access to public facilities is not denied.

CASUARINA PRISON, UPGRADING OF INDUSTRIES

527. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Were any funds allocated to upgrade the prison industries at Casuarina Prison?
- (2) What was the purpose of the allocation being made?

- (3) When was the allocation made?
- (4) Has the allocation been used?
- (5) If not, why not?
- (6) Has the allocation been used for other purposes or otherwise redirected or transferred?
- (7) If so, who made the decision to use the allocation for other purposes or to redirect or transfer it?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The purpose in allocating the fund was to provide additional programs including industries to occupy the growing muster.
- (3) In the 1998/99 financial year.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) The funds have been reallocated to address higher priority needs within the Ministry of Justice which was the upgrade of security as a result of the Christmas day 1998 riot.
- (7) A decision was made by the Ministry of Justice Executive in consultation with Treasury.

CASUARINA PRISON, SECURITY UPGRADE

528. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Has a decision been taken to upgrade the security at Casuarina Prison?
- (2) When was that decision made?
- (3) Was the decision to upgrade the security made prior to the December 1998 riot?
- (4) Was any decision to upgrade security at Casuarina Prison delayed due to the Director General of the Ministry of Justice being preoccupied with the awarding of the contract for the operations of the proposed Wooroloo South Prison?
- (5) If so, has this delay caused staff and prisoners to be placed at unnecessary risk?
- (6) If not, what was the reason for the delay in progressing the security measures?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) January 1999.
- (3) No.
- (4) No.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) There has been no delay in progressing security works by the Ministry of Justice. There have been some difficulties in completing security works caused by materials procurement delays by Contractor.

PRISONS, VISITS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

529. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

On -

- (a) what dates; and
- (b) for what duration on each date,

has the Director General of the Ministry of Justice visited Canning Vale and Casuarina Prisons since 1 January 1999?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply.

- (a)-(b) 7 January (Casuarina) – 2 hours
 27 January (Canningvale) – 1 hour
 10 February (Canningvale) – 1 hour
 8 April (Canningvale) – 2 hours
 13 April (Casuarina) – 1 hour
 11 June (Casuarina) – 1 hour
 17 June (Canningvale) – 1 hour

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, MR LES SMITH

532. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) In the -
 (a) 1997-98; and
 (b) 1998-99,
 financial years did the Ministry of Justice engage Mr Les Smith as a consultant?
- (2) What was the hourly or other rate paid to Mr Smith for each consultancy?
- (3) What was the total value of the consultancy work undertaken by Mr Smith for the Ministry of Justice in the financial years ending 30 June 1997, 1998 and 1999?
- (4) What was the specific nature of the services provided by Mr Smith under each consultancy?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Ministry of Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) Yes. The Director General of the Ministry of Justice engaged Mr Smith AM under two separate contracts for service under section 100 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994. The first dated from 13 January 1997 and the second from 16 April 1997.
- (2) \$60 an hour for the first consultancy and \$70 an hour for the second consultancy.
- (3)
- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------|
| (a) | First consultancy. | |
| | Year ending 30 June 1997 | \$ 3,600 |
| | Year ending 30 June 1998 | \$40,380 (1) |
| | Year ending 30 June 1999 | \$57,245 (2) |
| (b) | Second consultancy | |
| | Year ending 30 June 1997 | \$ 4,004 |
| | Year ending 30 June 1998 | \$ 6,014 |
| | Year ending 30 June 1999 | No fee paid. |
- (4) Under the first contract Mr Smith has undertaken the following tasks and projects:
- (a) Gathering information about issues of a review nature in the Ministry of Justice and reporting to the Director General on those issues.
 - (b) Negotiations with the Commonwealth in 1998 on legal aid matters.
 - (c) A review of the operations of the Legal Aid Commission with a Senior Assistant Crown Solicitor and an Assistant Under Treasurer.
 - (d) Negotiations on a service level agreement between the State and the Legal Aid Commission.
 - (e) Assistance with the review of the Legal Aid Commission Act 1976 and the drafting of a Bill to amend that Act.
 - (f) An independent organisational review of the Registry of the District Court of Western Australia.
 - (g) An independent organisational review of the Child Witness Service at the District Court.
 - (h) Participating as a member of the Crown Solicitor's review group in the review of the State Supply Commission Act 1991 and the review of the operations of the Commission and the Department of Contract and Management Services.
 - (i) Conducting an inquiry into the management of the case of a Parolee, Martin Coates, and reporting to the Director General.
 - (j) Conducting an inquiry into the incident at Casuarina Prison on 25 December 1998 and reporting to the Director General.
 - (k) Assisting with a review of the organisational structure of the Court Services executive in the Ministry of Justice.
 - (l) Assisting with a functional review of clerical/para legal services in the Crown Solicitor's Office.
 - (m) A preliminary examination of the history and funding arrangement of the Law Library at the Supreme Court.

Under the second contract Mr Smith was engaged to specifically assist the Attorney General of Western Australia in negotiations between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Western Australia in 1997 in reviewing arrangements for legal aid for people in need of that aid in Western Australia.

Note (1) \$7,085 of the sum of \$40,380 was paid by the Department of Contract and Management Services for the work on the review of the State Supply Commission Act 1991.

Note (2) \$19,385 of the sum of \$57,245 was paid by the Department of Contract and Management Services and \$18,330 of that sum was paid for the inquiry into the incident at Casuarina Prison.

CALL CENTRES, RELOCATION

533. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) Is the West Australian Government trying to attract Call Centres to Western Australia?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the Accor Asia Pacific company operates a Call Centre in St Georges Terrace Perth employing about 60 people?
- (3) Is the Minister also aware that the company has made a decision to relocate its operation to Sydney?
- (4) Is the Minister also aware company staff has been told the reason for the relocation relates to the high cost of calls to Western Australia?
- (5) Does the Minister intend to -
 - (a) meet with the company to see what may be done to keep the operation in Western Australia, and
 - (b) investigate the company's concerns regarding call costs?
- (6) If not, why not?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1)-(3) Yes.
- (4) According to the local management of Accor, the cost of calls to Western Australia was not the reason for the company relocating to Sydney. Accor initially established its call centre in Perth to service the Asia market. However, the Asian downturn has considerably reduced Accor's business from this region. Accor claims that 80% of its business is now generated in Sydney and Accor wants to co-locate its call centre with its hotels in Sydney in preparation for growing business next year, associated with the Olympics.
- (5) (a) No – the Department of Commerce and Trade has already met with the company and the decision to relocate will not be reversed.
 (b) No – the Department of Commerce and Trade has been advised that the cost of calls to Western Australia is not the issue.
- (6) Not applicable.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

AGENT GENERAL, MEETING WITH PANGEA RESOURCES AUSTRALIA

106. Dr GALLOP to the Premier:

- (1) Can the Premier confirm that the Government's Agent General in London, Hon Clive Griffiths, met with Pangea Resources Australia and British Nuclear Fuels Ltd in April to discuss the establishment of a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia?
- (2) Can the Premier also confirm that his former chief of staff, Ian Fletcher, attended that meeting?
- (3) Can the Premier inform the House whether Hon Clive Griffiths indicated the Government's support for that proposal?

Mr COURT replied:

(1)-(3) I cannot confirm whom Mr Fletcher meets; that is his private business.

Dr Gallop: He is your Agent General - he represents the Government of Western Australia.

Mr COURT: I said "Mr Fletcher".

Dr Gallop: What about Mr Griffiths?

Mr COURT: I would not know about the Agent General, Hon Clive Griffiths, but I have no difficulty with asking him and -

Dr Gallop: He is your Agent General and he represents the Government.

Mr COURT: Listen to the answer. I said I had no problem with asking him and giving the Opposition the answer.

Mr Ripper: Do you think he should have met with them?

Mr COURT: Is Pangea not an agent of the Opposition's mate, Tony Blair?

Several members interjected.

Mr COURT: If members follow it through, they will find that connection.

I do not know how many times I have to say it. This Government has no intention of allowing a nuclear waste dump to be established in this State to handle overseas nuclear waste material. I do not know how many times I have to say it.

Several members interjected.

Mr COURT: If the Opposition wants a motion of this House, the Government is willing to move one. If the Opposition wants this House to have an opportunity to say that, the Government is willing to do that.

Mr Kobelke: We would like some honest, straight answers from you. You cannot answer the questions from the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr COURT: The question was: Did Mr Griffiths meet with people from Pangea? I will find out whether he did. I have no difficulty with Mr Griffiths meeting people from Pangea or any other organisation. Why should he not do that? As I said, the organisation is closely connected to a major British government organisation. Should we be censoring with whom our overseas representatives meet? What are members opposite so uptight about?

Dr Gallop: We are not uptight; we are very interested in your intentions in this matter.

Mr COURT: We will give this Parliament an opportunity to -

Mr Ripper: Mr Fletcher is your stalking horse.

Mr COURT: Did the Leader of the Opposition discuss the matter with Mr Blair?

Dr Gallop: No, I did not.

Mr COURT: What did he discuss? On which dates did he attend meetings and when did he meet?

Mr Brown: He certainly did not discuss you.

Mr House: I bet they did.

The SPEAKER: Order! I suppose I should say welcome back. After two weeks away many people want to get in on the act and they will get their turn. All they have to do is stand and ask for the right to ask a question and I will give it to them.

AGENT GENERAL, MEETING WITH PANGAEA RESOURCES AUSTRALIA

107. Dr GALLOP to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Given the Government's stated policy of opposing a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia, would it be appropriate for the Western Australian Agent General in London to indicate support for such a proposal when speaking to representatives from Pangea?

Mr COURT replied:

That is a hypothetical question. I do not know whether he met with people from Pangea. As I said, I will find out and report back. I thought for a while that the Leader of the Opposition would try to trick me! I will not say what I thought he was going to ask!

SEAT OF KALGOORLIE

108. Mr SWEETMAN to the Premier:

Is the Premier aware of comments made in *The West Australian* today by the member for Kalgoorlie that the Government wanted to win the seat of Kalgoorlie at the next election?

Mr COURT replied:

I read the article. Although winning the seat of Kalgoorlie is wishful thinking on our part, we will not give up trying. I found an attempt to tie in native title with Liberal Party tactics amusing.

Ms Anwyl interjected.

Mr COURT: The safest political bet for the member for Kalgoorlie would be to jump ship and become an Independent.

The Labor Party is blaming everyone else except itself for the difficulties with native title. It does not want a solution to this issue.

Dr Gallop: You are a loser.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Bridge interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Kimberley, who is usually extremely well behaved, knows that he should not interject when I am on my feet. We cannot continue to have what could be easily described as rabble during question time. I allow a range of interjections, but they have gone beyond what is acceptable.

Mr COURT: I am sure the House will be more orderly on Thursday during the live broadcast.

Mr Ripper: With you not here!

Mr COURT: Yes. The unworkable native title legislation with which we are left is a legacy of the former Labor Government. In Kalgoorlie, for example, some claims have been amalgamated. Even with the amalgamation, overlapping claims still exist, as do some common claimants. I refer to the Wongatha exercise -

Ms Anwyl: There are 11 claims to one and you have appealed them.

Mr COURT: Hang on; as the member for Kalgoorlie knows, the establishment of an indigenous land use agreement with that claim is so complex it is difficult to know where to start. The member has missed the main issue. The legislation is unworkable, and the Government and the Parliament have a responsibility to put some practical legislation in place.

Mr Kobelke: You are the biggest problem with native title - no-one else. You are the stick in the mud who stopped progress in this area. You cannot deal with this issue.

Mr COURT: As long as the Opposition takes that approach, I suggest that the member for Kalgoorlie stick with my original advice to jump ship, because if the Opposition continues to try to justify unworkable legislation, it will go nowhere.

Mr Kobelke: The decision was 7:0 in the High Court of Australia. The Premier is the problem.

Dr Gallop: You are a loser, and you will lose again in the Federal Parliament.

The SPEAKER: I caution the Leader of the Opposition that he is delaying question time.

HIGH LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP, EFFECT ON TOURISM

109. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister for Resources Development:

- (1) Is the minister aware of the comments on ABC radio recently by a spokesperson for the tourism industry, Gerry Gannon, who warned that a nuclear waste dump in Western Australia would destroy the local tourism industry?
- (2) If so, is the minister prepared to reconsider his answer to an earlier question on notice in July in which he rejected the notion that a nuclear waste dump would dent our tourism image?
- (3) If not, why not?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1)-(3) What an extraordinary question. I am not aware of Gerry Gannon's comments on radio. However, I am aware that the tourism industry has a concern about proposed nuclear waste dumps. As to my answer, I have no idea to what the member is referring. If the member opposite, who has not been here long, wishes to ask me a direct question, he will get a direct answer.

ELECTIVE SURGERY, TREATMENT COMMITMENT

110. Mr OSBORNE to the Minister for Health:

Can the minister advise what progress has been made in meeting the Premier's commitment of last year that all patients waiting for certain elective surgery would be treated within one year?

Mr DAY replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. In August last year a commitment was given by the Premier that all patients who were waiting for either joint replacements or cataract removals at that stage would receive their operations within the following 12 months. Due to some rather lengthy negotiations with surgeons in some cases, that 12 months was subsequently extended to 30 September this year. As at 7 August last year, a total of 3 270 patients were waiting for elective surgery in those categories. I am delighted that as at 30 August this year, of those 3 270 patients who were awaiting surgery, 3 238 are no longer waiting for surgery. They have either had their surgery completed, are unable to have their surgery undertaken for some reason, or have had it undertaken in some other arena. Thirty-two cataract patients, or 1 per cent of the original patients, are still waiting for their operations. They are currently being assessed, and it is expected that their surgery will be completed or they will have a booking date by 30 September this year; in other words, all of the joint replacement cases have been completed or no longer require treatment. A small number of cataract patients are still awaiting treatment. However, that will be undertaken very soon.

That is an excellent outcome. It shows that we are making the system work, contrary to the claims of the Labor Party and some other people in this State. I thank everybody who has been involved in this program, the surgeons, nurses, administrative staff in the hospitals and the staff at the Central Wait List Bureau. I am currently working with the Central Wait List Bureau and the Health Department of Western Australia on a plan for elective surgery during the next 12 months. Once that is completed, I will make it public.

METROPOLITAN TEACHING HOSPITALS, BUDGETS

111. Ms McHALE to the Minister for Health:

Did the cabinet budget subcommittee at its meeting yesterday finalise the allocations to Perth's metropolitan teaching hospitals? If so, what are the budgets for this year for each hospital, and how do they compare with last year's budgets and out-turns?

Mr DAY replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. There is no cabinet budget subcommittee, but there is a cabinet budget standing committee, and given the obvious source of the member's question, I am not surprised at the use of that terminology. The committee does not have responsibility for determining the individual budgets for the health services and hospitals which comprise the Metropolitan Health Service. That responsibility lies with the board of the Metropolitan Health Service and its management. I have requested the Metropolitan Health Service conclude its deliberations as soon as possible and advise me of the budgetary allocations for the individual health services which comprise the Metropolitan Health Service, and I hope that will be completed by next week, at which time I will make them public.

METROPOLITAN TEACHING HOSPITALS, BUDGETS

112. Ms McHALE to the Minister for Health:

I ask a supplementary question. Last year the minister's predecessor promised that teaching hospitals would have their budgets by the beginning of the financial year. What sort of economic leadership is the minister now showing by failing to do so?

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I give the member for Thornlie the call, I remind members that supplementary questions are straight from the shoulder without lead-in explanations. I will allow it, because it adds something to the question, but I am bending the rules significantly.

Mr DAY replied:

The Government is showing much greater financial responsibility and accountability than was ever the case when the Labor Party was in government. When the Labor Party was in government, hospitals did not get their budgets until near the end of the calendar year. We have now put in place a system, through the introduction of budgets before the end of the financial year, and with the other processes involved, so that they know early in the financial year what their budgets will be.

GREENBUSHES MILL SITE

113. Mr BARRON-SULLIVAN to the Minister for the Environment:

Many people, particularly south west residents, are keenly interested in the Government's position with regard to the Greenbushes mill site, formerly operated by Whittakers Limited. Can the Minister advise on the current status of negotiations, and also on claims of conflict of interest by members of the Interim Forest Industries Ministerial Advisory Committee?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The Government and the receivers for Whittakers have been engaged in discussions with a number of companies to assess whether a viable timber operation at Greenbushes can be maintained. We are seeking an outcome which maximises the number of jobs from both Bridgetown and Greenbushes. Western Timber Cooperative has sought part of the Whittakers' operation. Neither WTC nor any other party was ever told that the contract for blue gum, or any other contract, would be assigned to it. The \$5m per annum softwood export contract referred to by Western Timber Cooperative was held by the receiver and not by WTC. The Government was first approached on 25 August 1999 to provide Western Timber Cooperative, on a preferential basis, with 5 000 to 12 000 tonnes of softwood to meet a contract that was not held by WTC. That demand was not met.

With regard to conflict of interest, two issues are particularly relevant. Firstly, the committee is an advisory committee. It does not have any decision making power. Its role is primarily to advise me on industry restructuring and other industry matters that flow from the Regional Forest Agreement. Secondly, the committee has not been involved in discussions on the Greenbushes mill site; hence any claims of conflict of interest are spurious. Further, at the first meeting of the committee held on 17 June this year, the issue of potential conflicts of interest was highlighted, and processes and procedures were put in place to deal with any real or perceived conflict. Verbal advice on the adequacy of those processes was also obtained from the Office of the Auditor General.

METROPOLITAN TEACHING HOSPITALS, BUDGETS

114. Ms McHALE to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Will the minister confirm that the indicative budgets given to Perth's teaching hospitals make average cuts in the order of 6 to 7 per cent compared with last year's expenditure levels?
- (2) Will the Minister confirm that this represents a cut of approximately \$20m to the budgets of Royal Perth and Sir Charles Gairdner hospitals?
- (3) What services will be cut and how many staff will be made redundant to meet these budget cuts?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1)-(3) As I indicated, the determination of the budgets for individual hospitals is the responsibility of the Metropolitan Health Service.

Mr Ripper: What do you do as minister?

Mr DAY: How long does the member want this answer to be? I have not been advised of any indicative budget for Royal Perth Hospital, or any other hospital; however, I do know that the hospitals now have firm information on which to work, and I have requested the budgets for the individual hospitals as soon as possible. I hope that will be concluded by early next week, after which time I will make the information public.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

115. Mr SWEETMAN to the Minister for the Environment:

Has the attention of the minister been drawn to a call for a public inquiry into conflicts of interest at the Environmental Protection Authority; and, if so, does she believe such an inquiry is warranted?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

There is no need for a public inquiry into the Environmental Protection Authority. It is an independent body, established to provide overarching environmental policy advice to the Government. Further, the Environmental Protection Act provides that any authority member who has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter before a meeting of the authority shall disclose the nature of that interest and not vote on that matter. A matter has arisen publicly concerning the consultancy which the chairman previously provided to the Kailis and France fishing group. I am advised that this advice related to activities in commonwealth waters, in the Gulf of Carpentaria and off Macquarie and Heard Islands; in other words, it did not relate to the work of the EPA. Mr Bowen has acted with total propriety at all times and I have complete confidence in him and members of the EPA.

DEPARTMENT OF MINERALS AND ENERGY, EXTRA STAFF

116. Ms ANWYL to the Premier:

- (1) Can the Premier confirm that the Department of Minerals and Energy recently made an application to Cabinet for additional funding for the employment of extra staff to process mineral lease applications?
- (2) If so, was the application approved, and how many additional staff will be employed?
- (3) If the application was rejected, will the Premier explain why?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) No.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

I will make some comment about the Department of Minerals and Energy in this matter. In regard to the section 29 initial notification procedures covering mining licences and exploration licences, the native title legislation was changed last year. The Labor Party opposed it. As a result of the amendments which went through the Federal Parliament, there has been a change in the protocols for exploration, mining and petroleum titles. That change was effected in May this year. One part of the change is the requirement for the native title party, the grantee party and the government party to negotiate in good faith. Previously only the government party was required to do that. Since the release of that protocol, 1 400 exploration titles have been subjected to notification under the Native Title Act. The department is processing information under the new protocol at the rate of approximately 100 applications a fortnight. I re-enforce this point: Members opposite opposed the changes which enabled better procedures for this initial notification. The new process speeds up the process at the front end. We all know that over 11 000 titles are jammed in the system.

Mr Ripper: Why wouldn't you put on an extra person?

Mr COURT: More people are doing this work within the Department of Minerals and Energy.

Ms Anwyl: How many more?

Mr COURT: I am telling the members that. They are from within the organisation.

TEACHERS, INCENTIVES

117. Mr BRADSHAW to the Minister for Education:

- (1) How many student teachers are expected to graduate at the end of this year?
- (2) How many of these teachers will be offered jobs?
- (3) What incentives will be offered to have these newly graduated teachers teach in large country centres?
- (4) What extra incentives will be offered to entice experienced teachers to take up teaching positions in small outlying or remote schools?

Mr BARNETT replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(4) As members will be aware, the staffing of country and particularly remote schools has been difficult this year. Although the situation is now essentially in control, there are about 17 vacancies.

Mr Graham interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr BARNETT: The question relates to the teachers graduating this year. Around 700 teachers graduated -

Mr Graham interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Pilbara!

Mr BARNETT: This year around 700 teachers graduated.

Mr Graham interjected.

The SPEAKER: I formally call the member for Pilbara to order for the first time.

Mr BARNETT: I am pleased to advise the House that next year about 1 430 teacher graduates will come into the labour pool. All of the teacher graduates who indicate a willingness to accept an appointment anywhere within Western Australia will be offered appointments this month. Something I have been concerned about -

Mr Ripper: How many is that?

Mr BARNETT: All of the teacher graduates who indicate that they will take positions across the State. We do not know how many, but we are inviting applications. All graduates who satisfactorily complete their course and meet the security requirements will be offered positions. It has been a concern of mine that perhaps there has been a lack of management of new employees when graduates are appointed. Rather than simply appointing young teachers, wherever possible the new employees will be assigned to large country centres. They will also operate under a monitoring and extra professional development program and will work as a network of new graduate teachers. The internship and practicums which were introduced will also continue.

The last part of the question referred to the remote teaching service, which was introduced in 1996. I advise members that virtually all of the 250 teachers in the 34 schools in the remote teaching service area are now part of the remote teaching service. Again we recognise that going into isolated and distant parts of the State is a challenging and demanding task with difficult conditions. Extra benefits provided to those teachers for next year will include free housing, and incentives and flexibility with their leave arrangements, including extra leave entitlements. An experienced teacher who takes up the challenging role of teaching in remote locations will be paid a package of about \$70 000 a year, including all of the financial and career incentives that give him or her permanency. This year has probably been the most difficult year in staffing schools for a number of factors which I have explained in the House before. The principal factor is that only half the number of graduates are coming in. However, this Government has taken it on, and I pay credit -

Mr Carpenter: Did you know this was going to happen?

Mr BARNETT: Yes, we did know it was going to happen.

Mr Carpenter: You planned it well.

Mr BARNETT: We have dealt with the situation. In July the Opposition put out press releases which referred to 70 unfilled vacancies. There were never 70 vacancies. Out of 17 500 positions, we started this term with about 17 vacancies.

HENSMAN ROAD CLINIC, REFURBISHMENT

118. Ms McHALE to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the May estimates committee hearings when, through a response from the chief executive officer of King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women, the minister pledged that the interim refurbishment of the Hensman Road clinic would be completed within a "couple of months". As it is now September, four months since that commitment was made, I ask -

- (1) Why has this work not been completed?
- (2) Will the Government finally make a commitment for a full and permanent relocation of the clinic as requested by the Opposition in May?
- (3) If not, how long will women, at the rate of about 3 000 a month, continue to be subjected to disgraceful and, some would say, third world conditions?

Mr DAY replied:

I was of the clear understanding that the work would be undertaken. I am surprised to find out that it has not been undertaken and I will find out why.

CAMPING AND CARAVANNING INDUSTRY, TRAINING PACKAGE

119. Mrs HODSON-THOMAS to the Minister for Employment and Training:

With reference to the Government's recently launched formal training package for the camping and caravanning industry, can the minister advise -

- (1) To which sectors of the industry does the package apply?

- (2) What are some the formal training standards which will be established?
- (3) How will the hospitality and tourism industry benefit from this initiative?

Mr KIERATH replied:

I thank the member for Carine for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(3) I am pleased to report that the caravan industry training package covers recreational vehicle manufacture, recreational vehicle servicing, retailing and caravan park operations. This illustrates that the Government recognises the increasing significance of tourism in this State, especially camping and caravanning holidays. Not only do we have the attractions to draw people to Western Australia but also we ensure that industry is well equipped to provide the vehicles to visitors and care for them while they enjoy our great State.

The caravan industry training package provides for 14 qualifications which range from certificate I - caravan park operations - to the diploma of caravan park management. Certificates II to IV are offered in retail vehicle manufacturing and retail vehicle servicing, accessories and retailing. The CIT package offers national competency standards, national qualifications and assessment guidelines. A range of additional training resources will provide a basis for industry training, individual career development and industry-wide continuous improvement.

All the qualifications are nationally consistent which will make it easier to hire people coming from interstate, and Western Australians will receive training that is recognised Australia-wide if they want to travel. This will enable the caravan industry to meet the increasing demands for skills in the fastest growing industry in the tourism sector. I am proud to say that this is more good news for Western Australian workers from this side of the House.

HAMILTON HILL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, SCHOOL FEES

120. Mr CARPENTER to the Minister for Education:

On 30 August the minister claimed on ABC Radio that Western Australian government high schools would never tell parents who could not pay fees to find another school for their child. Is the minister aware that the principal of Hamilton Hill Senior High School has delivered just such an ultimatum, via a letter to parents in April, which set out three options: Pay the fees in full, pay them in part, or enrol elsewhere? Was the minister attempting to mislead the public or is he just not on top of what is happening in his department?

Mr BARNETT replied:

Mr Speaker, I missed the first part of that question.

Mr Carpenter: On 30 August the minister claimed on ABC Radio that Western Australian government high schools would never tell parents who could not pay fees to find another school.

Mr BARNETT: That will be the policy, Mr Speaker. Students whose parents do not pay fees, regrettable as that might be, will not be denied access to their educational program.

Mr Carpenter: It is already happening.

Mr BARNETT: I am sorry, I am saying it will not happen. I am the Minister for Education. It will not happen, full stop.

EARTHWORKS, WA WATER CORPORATION

121. Mr BAKER to the Minister for Water Resources:

I refer to the recent earthworks carried out by contractors engaged by the WA Water Corporation adjacent to the Mitchell Freeway reserve in Currambine, and along Fairway Circle in Connolly. Can the minister please advise the House of the purpose of those earthworks?

Dr HAMES replied:

The purpose of those earthworks is part of a program to increase the water availability for the metropolitan and country regions. It is to lay a 700 millimetre pipeline to access further water through the Neerabup ground water treatment plant. The member will be pleased to know that I was in Wanneroo this morning where the department has just laid the second of three very large bores that travel 1 kilometre down into the Yarragadee aquifer to increase the supply of water from that source. It is a state-of-the-art bore, has a 20 metre submersible pump using technology from the oil industry and is the only pump of its nature in the world accessing underground water, particularly from that depth. This is part of a big step forward by the Water Corporation to improve our access to water supplies. Our dams are very low; currently they have 30 per cent capacity, which is just over 200 million kilolitres.

The member may recall that in 1998 we had to reach 250 million kilolitres of water to have enough so as not to extend the daytime sprinkler bans in the metropolitan area. This year the work that has been done in accessing the Yarragadee, the Neerabup mound - the earthworks of which the member for Joondalup spoke - and the Lexia water supply, will increase our availability of ground water to the tune of about 20 million kL which means that this year we will need to reach only 230 million kL in our dams to avoid further restrictions. We still need 30 million kL but hopefully, God will be kind to us and we will get more water over the next few months.

TEACHER SHORTAGES, COUNTRY SCHOOLS

122. Mr CARPENTER to the Minister for Education:

Does the minister agree with the head of his department, Mr Peter Browne, when he states that teacher shortages in country schools may never be solved? Has Mr Browne simply followed the example set by the Government in placing the issue in the too hard basket, or is this another example of the department saying one thing and the minister saying another?

Mr BARNETT replied:

I am always happy to answer any question. There seems to be a habit now of asking opinions of ministers on what other people may say or think. I am not aware of the comments by Mr Browne.

Mr Kobelke: Oh come on!

Mr BARNETT: I am happy to comment. I am not aware of those comments but I have great respect for Mr Browne. I think he is doing an excellent job as Acting Director General of Education. The issue of staffing 800 country schools across an area the size of Europe will always be difficult. I agree with the tone of the comment. The task has been acutely difficult this year. One of the factors making it so has been the switch from a three to a four-year teaching degree. This has caused only 700 rather than 1 400 graduates to come into the labour market. There is a more fundamental factor behind the teacher shortage. In 1990 when the Education Department offered jobs, as it is about to do now, it asked applicants whether they would take a job anywhere in Western Australia. Sixty per cent said yes. When the question was asked this year, 12 per cent said yes. The reason is that the typical graduate teacher today is a woman, 28 years old and far less mobile and less experienced with country areas. A lot of things have been done to encourage people to go to the country.

With the changes made, one issue in particular is affecting senior teachers, administrators, deputies and principals. An Equal Opportunity Commission ruling has made it very difficult to place senior staff in country areas. The ruling was opposed by the Education Department and me. Legislative ways are being sought to overcome the problem. I do not run away from the problem, but it is not a problem of my making.
