



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Debates

(HANSARD)

THIRTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT
SECOND SESSION
1999

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tuesday, 4 May 1999

Legislative Council

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THE PRESIDENT (Hon George Cash) took the Chair at 3.30 pm, and read prayers.

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP

Petition

Hon Giz Watson presented a petition, by delivery to the Clerk, from 20 people praying that the Legislative Council consider the health and welfare of the present and future residents of Western Australia and environmental impacts to be of more importance than profits from a high-level nuclear waste dump that will present problems of a large magnitude for generations to come.

[See paper No 1003.]

RENEWABLE ENERGY POWERED ECOTOURIST DISCOVERY CENTRE

Petition

Hon Giz Watson presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 82 persons -

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia assembled:

We the undersigned respectfully request that the Government establish a renewable energy powered ecotourist discovery centre for purposes of education and recreation, within the proposed Guilderton Regional Park south of the Moore River.

We request that the Government take this opportunity to both protect the estuary and coastal heathland and also to build a unique showplace which will serve local and international communities into the future.

Your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See paper No 1004.]

LIQUORLAND (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD

Petition

Hon Derrick Tomlinson presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 11 235 persons -

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned residents of Western Australia are opposed to the proposal which is currently before Parliament which will restrict Liquorland (Australia) Pty Ltd's capacity to grow by placing a restriction on the number of liquor stores that any licensee may own in Western Australia.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully request that the Legislative Council will reject the Liquor Licensing Amendment Bill 1998 (No 2).

[See paper No 1005.]

ANIMAL WELFARE LEGISLATION

Petition

Hon J.A. Scott presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 1 291 persons -

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned petitioners strongly urge all members to oppose any exemptions in new animal welfare legislation that would prevent an animal from expressing behavioural needs. We are particularly concerned at the inclusion in the new Animal Welfare Act of exemptions and/or provisions in codes of practice which would allow for intensive farming practices, which by their nature prevent animals from expressing behavioural needs. Such practices include the intensive confinement of animals such as the caging of hens and the tethering and confinement of sows, and the accompanying practices which can require the mutilation of animals because of the frustration and emotional and physical suffering caused by these farming methods.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully request that the Legislative Council does not include provisions or exemptions in the new Animal Welfare Act which would prevent an animal from expressing behavioural needs, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

[See paper No 1006.]

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Report

Hon N.D. Griffiths presented the thirty-ninth report of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in relation to the Taxi Amendment Regulations 1998, and on his motion it was resolved -

That the report do lie upon the Table and be printed.

[See paper No 1007.]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

Report

Hon M.D. Nixon presented the thirty-second report of the Standing Committee on Constitutional Affairs in relation to the Crimes at Sea Bill 1999 and proposed intergovernmental agreement, and on his motion it was resolved -

That the report do lie upon the Table and be printed.

[See paper No 1008.]

REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT

Urgency Motion

THE PRESIDENT (Hon George Cash): This morning I received the following letter addressed to me and dated 4 May 1999 -

Dear Mr President

At today's sitting it is my intention to move an Urgency Motion under SO 72 that the House at its rising do adjourn until 10.00 am on the 25th December 1999 for the purpose of discussing the State Government's handling of the Regional Forest Agreement processes.

Yours sincerely

Tom Stephens, MLC
Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council

In order to debate this motion, it is necessary for four members to rise in their places signifying their support.

[At least four members rose in their places.]

HON TOM STEPHENS (Mining and Pastoral - Leader of the Opposition) [3.39 pm]: I move -

That the House at its rising adjourn until 10.00 am on 25 December 1999.

A process that was embarked upon some years ago, which held great hope for the people of Western Australia, has ended in a process that has today delivered reasons for despair to the overwhelming majority of Western Australians. The reasons for that despair are contained in the agreement that has been signed by the Premier in Perth and the Prime Minister in Canberra.

Hon Barry House interjected.

Hon TOM STEPHENS: There will not be many in the electorate of Hon Barry House as a result of this agreement. He knows, as this House needs to know, that this agreement is the end of a process that has been botched by his Government from start to finish.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I am interested in hearing what the Leader of the Opposition is saying, and it is difficult to hear him when everyone is interjecting. It is a serious subject and a serious motion.

Hon TOM STEPHENS: The process was embarked upon by a Government that had within it members who from time to time protested that they would deliver to the people of Western Australia an arrangement that would approximate balance and sustainability and would be in the wider community interest. This Government has delivered on none of those promises. Inside government ranks is a coalition partner - the National Party - which has gone into the community and pretended that somehow or other it would protect the conservation sensitivities and interests of this State. Nothing has been further from the truth. When the chips were down, the National Party was out to lunch; its members were in New York and everywhere else but in the cabinet room. They did not depart from the cabinet room in high dudgeon, and did not hold this Government accountable for the rhetoric on display by lay party members and the party organisation throughout the southern reaches of this State or, indeed, the whole State. The National Party, in particular, should hang its head in shame.

In this Chamber members now have the opportunity to hear from the caught-out and disgraced members of this coalition, those who have portrayed themselves in the wider community as people who would protect the conservation interests of this State but have done nothing like that. This issue will be alive and well over the next two years in the political processes of this State, and members opposite need to know that, as a result, this Government will find itself trying to hang on to government by its claws. The Government will have very little prospect when this agreement starts to bite in the community. The political party that promised the workers in the south west that it would show some concern for them has displayed no such concern.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

Hon TOM STEPHENS: Nowhere in the document -

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Leader of the Opposition will cease speaking while I try to address members sitting to the right of me. I cannot possibly hear when people interject as they have been. I advise members on my left that it would be wise for them not to speak over the Leader of the Opposition.

Hon TOM STEPHENS: I encourage members proposing to contribute to this debate, particularly those on the government benches, to identify where within the document is the professed concern for the interests of the timber workers in the south west. Where are the tailor-made government programs, that have been the hallmark of the Labor Government in New South Wales, to deliver connecting work to those who have been displaced from the timber industry? These documents contain no tailor-made schemes; there are only handouts to the major corporations which are benefactors of the Liberal Party and, to some extent, the National Party. There are no schemes to look after the workers who will be displaced by some of the strategies unleashed in the Regional Forest Agreement.

More importantly, over the next 20 years the RFA will be played out insofar as it is sustainable within the Western Australian community. This Government has effectively put beyond the capacity of the Western Australian community the ability to cope with the agreement that has been signed today. The community will not tolerate that type of agreement. Instead of this agreement providing for an industry that is sustainable and conservation values that enshrine the sensitivities of the community, this Government, in collaboration with the Federal Government, has ridden roughshod over those sensitivities. It has not struck a balance or accommodated the concerns of the work force in the south west. Instead, it has been preoccupied with looking after the narrow corporate interests of its major benefactors. It is a short-term agreement. As a result, it will be reassessed again and again by the community of Western Australia, to the point at which the electorate will not tolerate the retention of this Government on the Treasury benches. In effect this Government has not given industry the certainty it deserves. It has not given the community the certainty, balance and sustainability to which it is entitled in yet another major debate in the Western Australian community.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Again, I call members on my right to order. I advise the Leader of the Opposition that this debate is about the handling of the processes involved in the Regional Forest Agreement. Because the Leader of the Opposition inserted the word "processes" at the end of his sentence in the motion, that confines the debate to processes, which are courses of action and action. If the Leader of the Opposition will address that topic, it will make me happier than I am now.

Hon TOM STEPHENS: At the time this letter was delivered, I had intended to restrict my comments to the processes leading to the agreement. However, a further process is the signing of the agreement at 10 o'clock this morning. One of the processes of delivering to the people of Western Australia an unsustainable forest industry into the future is the agreement struck at 10 o'clock. Therefore, I will include that when discussing the processes of this agreement.

The agreement has not been based on the best information available to the Government. We learnt today that, as part of the decision-making process, the agreement was largely based on advice from the agency that the Government today announced will be dismembered because it does not deliver the best options into the future for the management of the forest industry and the forests of Western Australia. The Government sees no reason not to accept recommendations from that agency, which is now to be split into two separate units because it cannot deliver the best possible outcomes for protecting both the industry and conservation values.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: Is that not what you want?

The PRESIDENT: Order, Hon Derrick Tomlinson!

Hon TOM STEPHENS: The Government knows only too well that the plea of the community in Western Australia was that there should be an open process and that the proposed agreement should be available for public scrutiny before the Premier's signature landed on the paper. One of the additional pressures has been the argument that Parliament's approval should have been sought and obtained before an agreement of this sort was signed. Increasingly it is becoming obvious that new processes will be foisted upon the community of Western Australia through this Parliament in relation to future agreements. We cannot take the entire community for granted, as this Government is choosing to do, without seeing a consequence reflected in legislation that will be demanded by the community. The opportunity to have Governments sign agreements like this in the future will be lost as a result of this Government's so willingly and ambitiously thumbing its nose at the community's sensitivity by not providing sustainability or striking a balance that would give some certainty to both the timber industry and the conservation interests. Rather, this Government has placed the entire process in jeopardy. With sleight of hand it has taken out of the conservation realm forest blocks that were earmarked under the conservation process for preservation but which, through this agreement today, are suddenly added back to the area of timber harvesting interests.

An aspiration was delivered to this Government by the community of Western Australia that sought the end to logging in old-growth forests. What has this Government done? It has delivered only 13 per cent of the aspirations of the Western Australian community. Only 13 per cent of the old-growth forests of Western Australia will be preserved and protected, if we are to believe this Government's agreement with the Federal Government. It amounts to only 13 per cent of the total aspirations of a community that is increasingly demanding an end to the logging of old-growth forests in this State. Those forests have become the beacon of what can be important industries and an important environment for providing real opportunities for Western Australians and the visitors to this State. Those opportunities should leave in place an

environment of interest to not only the residents of Western Australia but also interstate and overseas tourists who would see that those areas within the south west should be protected forever.

Of course I am referring to old-growth forests, approximately 87 per cent of which are to be felled as a result of the decision released by this Government today. With sleight of hand the Government throws -

Hon N.F. Moore: You should check your figures.

Hon TOM STEPHENS: We are absolutely confident of our figures. From the figures delivered by the Government and analysed by independent commentators it is obvious that this Government is long on rhetoric and short on producing the level of sustainability through these processes that the community so desperately seeks. There are questions that must be answered unambiguously before the Western Australian community can properly assess exactly what the Government is embarking on in the protection of the forests of Western Australia. Is it not the case that jarrah woodlands are to be included in the definition of old-growth forests? Is it not the case that approximately 90 per cent of the current production karri forests will be allowed to be logged? Is it not the case that logging in up to 54 000 hectares will be allowed in regions previously included in conservation areas and reserves protected from logging since as early as 1987? How many job losses will occur as a result of the agreement? Setting aside in reserves the large area of woodlands the timber industry does not want while keeping high value commercial forests for logging will not produce the outcome the Western Australian public is seeking. I understand that 90 per cent of Giblett block will be subject to logging as a result of this agreement. Jane, Peak and Sharpe blocks have not been reserved as a result of this agreement. This agreement brings shame on this Government.

HON MAX EVANS (North Metropolitan - Minister for Finance) [3.55 pm]: I will stick to the motion. The Government and the Minister for the Environment, and particularly the Premier, have handled this issue very well in contrast to the Opposition when it was in government. The Regional Forest Agreement process began in 1992 as a product of the previous Government. The process with which this Government was left has created many of the problems we have had to confront. It is irresponsible for the Opposition to suggest that the Government is at fault. I remind members that the former Government approved a jarrah sawlog cut of 594 000 cubic metres in 1987.

Hon N.F. Moore: Who did that?

Hon MAX EVANS: Mr McGinty, when the Opposition was in government.

Hon N.F. Moore: How many?

Hon MAX EVANS: It was 594 000 cubic metres in 1987, and in 1992 when he was a member of Cabinet it approved a cut of 520 000 cubic metres.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Hon Bob Thomas and the Leader of the House should cease their cross-Chamber interjections. I am trying to listen to the Minister for Finance.

Hon MAX EVANS: That deserves repeating. The former Government approved a jarrah sawlog cut of 594 000 cubic metres in 1987, and in 1992 when Mr McGinty was a member of Cabinet it approved a cut of 520 000 cubic metres. The coalition is now working towards a reduction of 45 per cent of that figure. We should consider the facts regarding the old-growth forests in the past compared with those of today - they cannot be changed. I believe that the recent RFA consultation process was almost flawless. In 1996-97 eight public meetings were held in Perth and throughout the south west. From 1996-98 nine meetings of stakeholder reference groups were held. In 1996-97 there were five meetings with the Noongar Action Group. In 1997, 10 community heritage workshops were held in Perth and throughout the south west. In 1997-98 there were 122 meetings with various organisations. In 1997-98 seven indigenous workshops were held throughout the south west. In 1997-98 there were 200 meetings with organisations and individuals by the social assessment unit. In 1998 nine public open days were held in Perth and throughout the south west and 30 000 public submissions were received, which members will find are summarised in the papers distributed today.

The Regional Forest Agreement for the south west is part of a national blueprint for balance, certainty and sustainability of forest management.

Hon Tom Stephens: Rubbish.

Hon MAX EVANS: That is what the Opposition signed in 1992 when it was in government. That was initially the purpose of the RFA.

Hon Tom Stephens: You haven't delivered on that.

The PRESIDENT: Order, Leader of the Opposition!

Hon MAX EVANS: We are debating how this matter has been handled and I believe the Government has handled it very well. The Commonwealth has signed two RFAs with Victoria for the East Gippsland and Central Highland regions and another with Tasmania. Three more RFAs will be signed in Victoria and others in New South Wales and Queensland. They are all scheduled for completion by the end of 1999, unless my facts are wrong. The Opposition declared that New South Wales had already signed its RFA. Perhaps the Opposition should check the facts.

The Western Australian RFA is a 20-year agreement and, appropriately, will be reviewed every five years. The Opposition referred to changes of government and the implications of future requirements. Five-yearly reviews will provide the opportunity to make any changes. The Western Australian RFA meets three of the main objectives of the RFA initial

processes: Protection of environmental values of a world class system of national parks and other reserves, based on nationally agreed criteria; and encouragement of job creation and growth in forest-based industries, including wood products, tourism and minerals. Through this process the Government has sought to encourage more real jobs in the industry rather than focus on jobs currently available. Consultation has taken place throughout this matter. The industry has accepted that more jobs will be provided in the south west; not just in tourism but in the whole forest and timber industry. The third objective of the regional forest agreement process was to manage all native forest in a sustainable way. The background document states that for the environment the Western Australian RFA -

... establishes a world class reserve system which is Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative of the forests' biodiversity, old growth and other natural and cultural values.

The Government is proud of what it has done today. It is a product of negotiation between the Governments - Federal and State - and experts around Australia. The Government is bringing down a doctrine which it believes will go a long way towards a responsible regional forest agreement for Western Australia and the workers and forests of Western Australia. That is what the Government is all about. Hon Tom Stephens did not provide any facts; he simply generalised 101 things, as he always does. The process was handled very well and the Government is proud of it.

HON CHRISTINE SHARP (South West) [4.00 pm]: I would like to initiate some dialogue about this matter in this Chamber if possible.

The PRESIDENT: I do not mind that as long as Hon Christine Sharp's dialogue does not include interjections. Hon Christine Sharp should have her say and then I will invite another member to have a say.

Hon CHRISTINE SHARP: It is clear that this process is not all one way and is very complex. It is difficult for people who are not well informed to assess the agreement package handed down today. I have been grappling with it over the past hour and can provide only some summaries of the information in front of me. I will divide the agreement into three aspects: The first is the proposals concerning the Department of Conservation and Land Management; the second relates to the reduction of the cut in the jarrah forest; and the third relates to the increase in reservations in the forests.

The provisions concerning the administration of forest management are certainly the best and most satisfactory part of the regional forest agreement. There has been almost unanimous support for a resolution of the blatant conflict of interest within CALM and it is good to see that this will finally come about. Having had a quick look at today's package, I am pleased that the Government has not followed the model proposed by the National Party. The National Party's policy was excellent in many ways but I did not agree with its proposal for CALM.

The Government's agreement is better because in proposing the creation of a state conservation authority we are ensuring that all forests, both production and conservation, will be vested in a single authority under the control of the Minister for the Environment and the forest estate will not be split into two separate departmental empires. That is to be commended and I am pleased to see that provision in the agreement. I wish that I did not feel some cynicism about the process from many years of dealing with forest management. I would like to think that the Government has done this to the Department of Conservation and Land Management because it has suddenly seen the green light. However, I suspect that the Government has simply read the review conducted under the national competition policy and has been forced to remove the anti-competitive aspects of the Department of Conservation and Land Management's Act to conform with national competition principles. I believe that is the source of this excellent innovation in the RFA.

I have mixed feelings about the jarrah cut. I have been involved in the argument about the overcut of jarrah since before 1992; with my personal work on the Environment Protection Authority I have been fighting the overcutting of the jarrah forest for 10 years. I find myself in a difficult position. It is good to see a scandalous situation from the past being redressed and I am relieved to see that that overcutting has been recognised. However, some cynicism again creeps in because until 2004 the cut has been set at 324 000 cubic metres. That is the actual present cut and it means that the industry is not giving up anything. This anomaly, this vast overcut which has created a glut of jarrah, was manipulated by the department and imposed on the timber industry at the beginning of this decade.

Hon Barry House interjected.

Hon CHRISTINE SHARP: Indeed, but they do not want it. The industry is forced by contract to take more than it wants. There is an oversupply of jarrah and there are large stockpiles of valuable jarrah in all jarrah mills. The mill closest to me has a \$15m stockpile of unsold jarrah. The retail price of jarrah has decreased by one-third in the past five years due to the scandalous level of the overcut throughout this decade. Therefore, I have mixed feelings about seeing that we are slowly moving to redress that. I feel great relief that this has been recognised thanks to the groundbreaking work of the Environmental Protection Authority in its report of last November, but I recognise that we are still overcutting. The EPA said the cut must be reduced to 250 000 but it will remain at 324 000, which is the actual cut as opposed to the allowable cut, and it will stay at that level until 2004. The industry is giving up nothing except some legal rights it does not want.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: Did the EPA set that target?

Hon CHRISTINE SHARP: Yes. That 250 000 is its target

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: When?

Hon CHRISTINE SHARP: In November last year. This package does not include any details but I will be appalled if we find that what is being called the "business exit assistance" of compensation to the industry comes in the form of a sizeable compensation package being paid to Bunnings which has been creaming it with contracts requiring it to take only first grade

jarrah. It is not contracted to take a single stick of second or third grade timber. That is a disgrace and something which has happened as this Parliament has sat for the past nine years. It is outrageous and I will view with great interest what happens under the so-called "business exit assistance".

The last and perhaps most important aspect of the RFA is the issue of reserves. This package means that many of the icons will be cut. There is only a bit of Giblett and Sharpe blocks, none of Kerr and no more of Hester than was proposed in 1992. We will face a winter of muddy if not bloody battles over these icon blocks. We have failed to bring agreement to this regional forest agreement. There is virtually no extra karri. The main block of karri is Hawke block at 2 878 hectares but the Government is removing the proposed conservation lot of 2 254 hectares at Charlie. It is a sleight of hand. This 150 000 of new reserves is not even option A. Last year, option A was 165 000 to 187 000 hectares. This is 150 000 hectares less the 50 000 hectares of proposed conservation reserves put in place in 1992. We are giving 150 000 hectares and taking back 50 000. The press releases do not explain this to the public. It is outrageous, a complete sleight of hand and very duplicitous.

Basically it means one finds the areas being put into reserve contain the poorest grade forest. Although it looks pretty good on paper, when one knows the details one realises it means virtually no fine, magnificent trees, which by coincidence are in highest production forest, will be put into extra conservation reserves, let alone anywhere near all of the remaining old-growth forest, which is so clearly what the community of Western Australia wishes to see.

HON NORM KELLY (East Metropolitan) [4.11 pm]: I shall take members to another document which on 3 July 1996 the Premier also signed. I refer to the scoping agreement for the Western Australian Regional Forest Agreement. This scoping agreement lies at the heart of the discontent of the vast majority of Western Australians who have commented on the RFA process in recent years. I refer to page 13 of an appendix to the agreement which states how the RFA process is to be carried out. Paragraph 8 states -

Both Governments agree to jointly conduct the following steps as part of the RFA . . .

(e) Production and release for public comment, a draft RFA report which integrates the conclusions -

I emphasise "conclusions" -

- of the environmental, heritage, economic and social regional assessments and ecologically sustainable management, and which is consistent with the requirements of the EP(IP) Act.

That is at the heart of the opinion of the majority of Western Australians who are disgusted with this Government's behaviour in processing this RFA agreement. Last June, as part of the process, a paper was released entitled "Towards a Regional Forest Agreement for the South-West Forest Region of Western Australia". Subsequently the Government stated that the paper was its version of a draft RFA report. However, we had to wait at least another six months until January of this year when a social assessment for the WA RFA was released, yet the scoping agreement said quite clearly that a draft RFA report should be released after the conclusion of all of the other agreements. The social impact assessment is only one of many assessments which were carried out to facilitate proper public consultation and debate after the their release. The Government called for public submissions after the release of the options paper last June, but members of the public had not received the full information which would enable them to make valid submissions.

When we finally receive an analysis of those over 30 000 submissions - an analysis which for no good reason was delayed until today - we get an idea of the issues people were raising in their submissions. Among those issues, the steering committee has accepted the shortcomings in the RFA process during the consultation period in the middle of last year, such as certain areas not being identified on maps, Department of Conservation and Land Management managed lands not being recognised and the like. The public has not had an opportunity to look at all of the details. Of course the federal minister and the state Minister for the Environment have told people to go back to science and the facts. Unfortunately the Government was not able to provide the full facts to enable proper consultation. That is why, even though the Prime Minister and the Premier may say that the RFA has the support of their Governments, unfortunately it does not have the support of the Western Australian people.

If the Government feels that having this RFA signed will mean the end of the matter and that it will have longer-term security for the timber industry, it is sadly mistaken. I am afraid that what will most likely happen is that confrontation, which has been ongoing over the past few years, will not only continue but is also likely to escalate as many of these high-value conservation areas are logged. Giblett block has very little millable timber, but a very high proportion of woodchip material, which is where most of the timber would go if it were to be logged. We will find that many people will be down there fighting to save those types of high conservation areas because their value as standing forest far exceeds their value as woodchips.

Hon Barry House: You know that is not true.

Hon NORM KELLY: What Hon Barry House must do is look at areas of Giblett block that have already been logged and see the percentage of material that has gone through the chipper from that forest block.

Hon Barry House: Being logged is one thing; being woodchipped is another.

Hon NORM KELLY: The timber industry logs it and then woodchips it - that is the process. All Hon Barry House has to do is to look at the total amount which has already been taken out of Giblett block and the proportion of that which has been woodchipped. The majority of the timber that has come out of that block has ended up in the chipper and has then gone to Japan.

The Australian Democrats welcome the allocation of \$38.5m to the structural adjustment package. We are concerned that it looks as though this money could be going to the big corporations to feather their nests and reward them for not taking action in the past 10 years after the warnings in the last forest management plan that they need to restructure to allow for the inevitable decrease in available wood. This was an integral part of the Meagher report in 1993, which pointed out that 250 000 cubic metres a year of jarrah product was a sustainable amount, but for political and industry reasons a higher cut was allowed. Industry has failed to adequately prepare for that restructuring. It now looks as though this Government, which benefits greatly from the donations of corporations such as Wesfarmers Ltd, will reward industry for that failure, because it will get even more money. Such corporations may donate \$100 000, but they will get a few million dollars back in return, which represents a pretty good return for Wesfarmers.

It is interesting to note that this Government feels it is far better to inform the media and forest industry groups before it has the decency to inform members of Parliament. However, in the few hours that I have been able to look at the details, I have noted that normal silviculture practice, such as the thinning of a forest, is regarded as additional effort and an extra \$3m will be provided for that. Thinning is all part of what normal, good silviculture management is all about. It should not come under the RFA, but should be part of CALM's budget for managing state forests.

Hon Dexter Davies: So what should happen if it is not an improvement?

Hon NORM KELLY: In recent years in the karri forests CALM has reduced its thinnings to zero, because it says it is not viable. Now CALM will get a bit of a top-up to be able to do it.

Hon Dexter Davies: You do not want CALM to do it now?

Hon NORM KELLY: Neither coalition nor Labor Governments have been able to realise revenues -

Several members interjected.

Hon NORM KELLY: The royalties coming out of those forests are not sufficient to allow for proper management throughout their life cycles. I am sure that Hon Dexter Davies is well aware of that. As much as we all welcome the extra areas that are being placed in reserve, one does not have to look closely at maps to realise the quality of the areas involved. From my first look at the map, I noted that clearly areas of low quality old-growth forest values are included. Areas of bushland, scrub and sand dunes have been included again as old-growth forest. This Government likes to classify them as part of the reservation of old-growth forest.

Hon Ray Halligan: It is part of the ecosystem.

Hon NORM KELLY: A sand dune contains very few trees, I can assure Hon Ray Halligan.

Hon Barry House: Biodiversity is not only about trees.

Hon NORM KELLY: It is not, but the Government should not be misrepresenting old-growth forest. It should not be saying that a sand dune is old-growth forest.

Hon Ray Halligan: Where does it say that?

Hon NORM KELLY: I was not privy to a briefing yesterday. Surely Hon Ray Halligan can bring up these matters more easily than I.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: If you do not know, why are you making it up?

Hon NORM KELLY: All one needs to do is look at a map. That is what I said before.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I am trying to listen to Hon Norm Kelly. There is limited time for debate.

Hon NORM KELLY: I will not have a chance to refer to Bunnings' media release of today, but I am sure the officers of Bunnings must have had difficulty keeping straight faces when they realised Bunnings had had a bit of a windfall with the release of this RFA.

The PRESIDENT: Order! If Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich is asking for the call, I will give her the call. I make the point to Hon Barry House, because I thought he was about to rise, that I had Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich written down as the next speaker - that is, if no-one on the right of my Chair rose. However, Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich did rise before Hon Barry House, and so I am obliged to give her the call. If she takes only half her time there will be room for more!

HON LJILJANNA RAVLICH (East Metropolitan) [4.20 pm]: It is a very rowdy Chamber today, therefore I ask members opposite to sit quietly and listen. In preparation for this urgency motion I was provided with a copy of some press clippings. These clippings demonstrate the breadth of this debate - where it has gone, the ups and downs, the sideways, who has been involved and all the rest of it. I will run through some of the headings which highlight the different views and perspectives on the issue. They read: "Howard calls WA MPs to forest talks"; "Cowan cut down by Edwardes"; "Tuckey attacks 'wealthy' Liberals"; "Native timber jobs could be trebled, anti-loggers claim"; "Timber deal will cost 620 jobs"; "Tuckey denies job losses"; "State to face big logging payout"; "Logging cuts to hurt timber towns: study"; "Love-in tries to see wood from the trees"; and "Lightfoot treads on forest toes". When I came across the last one I thought that was good because he was not treading on anybody else's toes in this Chamber.

Mr President, the Regional Forest Agreement was a wonderful opportunity for this Government to really make a difference

in the area of forest management, but it has not done that. It has missed one of the greatest opportunities it had to bring some security into an industry which for a long time has not had industry security. Mark my words: This is the beginning, not the end, of the battle. This Government is in cloud cuckoo land if it thinks it has community consensus on this matter.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I say again that I am trying to listen to Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich. If other members want to talk among or to themselves, they can move outside the Chamber and allow at least two people to hear what is going on.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: As the press clippings demonstrate, there has been extensive debate on and media coverage of this issue. The Government has failed to take the stakeholders with it. That is apparent from the actions of the conservation movement in the past few days; it has claimed that it was bypassed in the process. In my work on forest issues and my role on the Standing Committee on Ecologically Sustainable Development, I know that the committee went to great lengths to make recommendations on the RFA and how to improve the process. I am saddened that this Government did not take on board any of those recommendations and as a result the regional forest outcome is significantly weakened.

I will refer to a number of the recommendations. One of them stated -

That the Minister for the Environment note that much of the conflict and mistrust surrounding the RFA process stems from the lack of acceptance of generally agreed definitions for terms used in the RFA process.

Mr President, we do have a signed RFA but we are no further advanced on that issue. There is no industry agreement on the definitions used in the area of forest management, and the conflict will continue until there are agreements on definitions. Another recommendation states -

That the RFA process should establish credible, repeatable baseline data and generally agreed, consistently used definitions.

Once again that has not been achieved. Another recommendation states -

That the Minister for the Environment seek to enhance acceptance of the RFA process by establishing and adequately funding an accord process to assist the Minister's review of the RFA process thus far and in preparation of the Agreement itself.

That was a golden opportunity missed by this Government to ensure that the process was right not only in determining the RFA outcome but also in ensuring the long term future of the timber industry and the ongoing application of the RFA process itself, because this Government in its usual fashion thinks it is the only fount of knowledge. It is a Government that operates very much on the basis of, "Do as I say and not as I do." It is a Government that has no regard for community input and consultation, and at the end of the day it is very much weaker for taking that view. I have grave concern about what this RFA will deliver. It is clear, on my reading of the RFA document, that there will be job losses in the industry and, as Hon Tom Stephens pointed out, nowhere in the RFA document is that figure specified.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich is trying to address the Chair.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: This Government has adopted the approach that it does not need to implement proper retraining strategies because at the end of the day jobs will be created and in some way workers will be able to shift from their existing jobs into newly created jobs - if and when those jobs are created.

Hon Tom Stephens: Like it did for the bus drivers.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: Hon Tom Stephens is exactly right - as the Government has done with hospital workers and bus drivers.

Hon Bob Thomas: And Westrail.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: Like it did with Westrail; the list goes on. This industry is no different. These workers will not be looked after. There is no mention of training programs and what work these existing forestry workers will be assigned to. This Government has put on record that one of its strategies is to create sawmilling, drying and planing facilities at Nannup and to establish two mills. Value adding of the product is a good thing; however, it will need -

The PRESIDENT: Order! I do not know what the Leader of the House and Hon Ken Travers are saying to each other because I cannot quite hear. In that respect I suppose their interjections are smart. However, I am battling to hear Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich. I do not understand why members want to talk over other members, because when that happens the House degenerates into a situation where the Hansard reporter is battling to record anything and all we do is waste time. I thought the motion was sufficiently important for members to get up, say their piece and listen to other members without major interjections. Obviously, I am wrong; this is nothing more than a point-scoring exercise.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: Thank you, Mr President. It is a bit of a battle when I cannot hear myself and I must admit at that point I could not.

The issue of retraining workers is important. The Government has sold out timber workers in a major way. It will look after its business mates and provide seed capital through the structural adjustment package for mills to be set up. At the end of the day that will subsidise enterprises and some individuals within the community at the expense of others and shareholders who might have an interest in those companies.

Hon Ray Halligan: How can you reach that conclusion?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: I read the report. It is of concern to me that there has been no funding allocation for the retraining of workers. I will be very interested to see what comes down in Thursday's state budget. As I understand it, \$23m of this package will be provided by the Federal Government; the remaining \$39m will be provided by the State Government. I will look at the state budget on Thursday very carefully to try to identify the relevant line items. I am particularly interested in finding out what is in it for Western Australian workers in the timber industry.

Motion lapsed, pursuant to standing orders.

COURT SECURITY AND CUSTODIAL SERVICES (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by Hon Peter Foss (Minister for Justice), read a first time.

Second Reading

HON PETER FOSS (East Metropolitan - Minister for Justice) [4.31 pm]: I move -

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill is the second of two related Bills in a package. In the second reading of the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill, I will outline the underlying policies the Government has adopted in proposing these new approaches to the organisation of arrangements and powers in respect of services provided under that Bill. The provisions outlined in the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill necessitate a number of amendments to current statutes. Because there are a comparatively large number of amendments, all consequential amendments have been contained in a separate Bill, the Court Security and Custodial Services (Consequential Provisions) Bill. New arrangements and powers in respect of the operation and provision of services central to the support and functioning of the courts and related custody services are set out in the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill. The Bill empowers the chief executive officer to make alternative arrangements for the delivery of court security, court custody management prisoner movement, and lockup management.

Functions established under the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill enable the chief executive officer to authorise people, other than those specified in existing legislation, to exercise unique powers in the provision of a service under that Bill. When those powers require those persons to exercise a function in providing a service relating to a requirement under another statute, it is necessary to amend those statutes to include those authorised persons, and to provide consistency of application in the delivery of services; for example, certain functions and responsibilities carried out by persons designated under the Bail Act 1982, the Justices Act 1902, the Police Act 1892, the Prisons Act 1981 and the Young Offenders Act 1994, will be able to be provided, or met, by authorised persons as defined in the new Court Security and Custodial Services Bill. Once enacted, the new Bill will place the responsibility for the management of lockups under the chief executive officer of the Ministry of Justice. The term "lockup", as it is defined in each of the existing statutes I have just mentioned, is redefined to incorporate the meaning of a lockup as it applies in the new Bill.

The Anti-Corruption Commission Act 1988, the Freedom of Information Act 1992 and the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971 contain powers including those of investigation, inquiry or review, and all have reporting requirements. The amendments proposed for these statutes establish any contractor as an entity for reporting and accountability purposes. It also identifies a relevant officeholder for the purposes of reporting, and makes contractors and subcontractors accountable for their actions.

The definition of "public officer" in section 1(1) of the Criminal Code is amended to include persons under the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill who are empowered to undertake "high-level security work". Under this amendment such persons are given the same protection as public officers who may be vulnerable to offences committed against them in the legitimate conduct of their work. This also makes them more accountable under those offence provisions that have particular application to the consequences of unlawful conduct by public officers. Relevant affected provisions of the Criminal Code are section 82 relating to bribery, section 83 relating to corruption, section 85 relating to falsification of records, section 87 relating to personation, section 88 relating to bargaining for public office, section 171 relating to resisting, section 318 relating to serious assaults, and section 355 relating to defamation defence. These amendments also provide the definitional link for the jurisdiction of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act 1988.

A prospective contract worker must submit to a check of his criminal record before the chief executive officer may consider issuing a permit to do "high-level security work". An amendment to the provisions of the Spent Convictions Act 1988 defines such an applicant as a person whose spent conviction record will be made available. For the purposes of the Coroners Act 1996, the definition of a "person held in care" is amended to include a person for whom the chief executive officer is responsible under the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill 1998.

In the second reading speech on the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill 1998, I will express the view that this package is pivotal to the Government's aim to ensure high standards of accountability in the provision of newly defined services for the support and functioning of the courts and related custody processes. These Bills together are important to the implementation of new arrangements designed to eliminate existing impediments to flexibility, innovation and integration in these functions. Anything less than the standards that have been set by this review process will fall short of the targets set by this Government. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Hon Bob Thomas.

COURT SECURITY AND CUSTODIAL SERVICES BILL*Receipt and First Reading*

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by Hon Peter Foss (Minister for Justice), read a first time.

Second Reading

HON PETER FOSS (East Metropolitan - Minister for Justice) [4.36 pm]: I move -

That the Bill be now read a second time.

This is the first of two related Bills I propose to read in the House today. The first is the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill and the second, which I have already dealt with, is the Court Security and Custodial Services (Consequential Provisions) Bill.

The purpose of the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill is to provide a unified statutory framework for the substantial reorganisation of arrangements and powers of the operation and provision of services central to the support and functioning of the courts and related custody processes. These services include court security, court custody management, prisoner movement and lockup management. This Bill combines responsibility for these services under the Ministry of Justice. It transfers, from the Western Australia Police Service to the Ministry of Justice, responsibility for the operation of court security services and prisoner custody and transport services. This milestone initiative will release up to 200 police officer full-time equivalents, enabling the deployment of these resources to core policing duties. At the same time, the essential support functions provided for in this Bill are reallocated and delivered in a safe, more efficient, better integrated and more accountable way. Under this Bill, many existing court security and custodial practices currently based on common law and assumptions will be codified and clarified.

This Bill gives responsibility to the chief executive officer of the Ministry of Justice for the functions of lockup management, court security, court custody and the movement of persons in custody. This includes responsibility for adults and juveniles, accused persons, offenders, intoxicated detainees held under part VA of the Police Act 1892, and those people apprehended pursuant to certain orders made under the Mental Health Act 1996 being held temporarily in a lockup. In carrying out functions, the chief executive officer may authorise people other than those specified in existing legislation - for example, the Prisons Act 1981 and the Young Offenders Act 1994 - to exercise unique powers in the provision of a service under this Bill. The chief executive officer will be empowered to enter into alternative service arrangements for service provision, including contracted agreements with private sector operators, for some or all of these services. The Bill provides a range of appropriate powers which will, for the first time, support improved coordination of arrangements for effective security and control within courts, court custody centres, lockups and in other related locations and circumstances.

This Bill will enable innovative and fundamental changes to the way in which these law and order support services are organised. The new statutory arrangements are designed to eliminate impediments to continuity of service delivery and accountability. The Bill represents the culmination of a significant effort by two major government portfolios to ensure the better management of resources to the benefit of all Western Australians. The Ministry of Justice and the Western Australia Police Service will be better focused on their prime responsibilities, and the best service providers will be retained to deliver the services I have outlined.

Background: Existing service delivery arrangements in respect of the functions covered by this Bill are ill-defined, fragmented and complex - involving multiple public and private sector agencies operating under different service mandates. This leads to duplication of effort, service overlap and increased exposure to potential service failure. Currently, the State's investment in policing services is not being used to its full potential. In every part of our State, fully trained sworn officers are engaged daily in services not directly related to their core function. The role of the police should be focused on the maintenance of the peace, crime prevention and control, traffic control and emergency services management, and assisting members of the community in times of emergency and need.

Deficiencies with Current Arrangements: Within the Ministry of Justice, two separate divisions, offender management and court services, are also directly responsible for the provision of some of the identified functions. Similarly, both the Ministry of Justice and the Western Australia Police Service provide services for the transport of prisoners between courts and prisons. Sworn police officers provide in-court security in all courts of criminal jurisdiction, including the provision of dock guards and public gallery guards. Within the court the powers of police are not clearly defined with respect to search and seizure. Police also manage the court custody centres where prisoners are held pending their appearance in court. All lockups within the State are managed by police, either in conjunction with their routine police work or as part of a separately resourced and dedicated task. Police also provide for the transport of prisoners on remand and for those convicted persons in their custody, either to a lockup, prison or detention centre. This service often operates in parallel with services provided by prison officers.

In the main, many of the security and custodial functions carried out in Western Australia are done using powers derived from statutes such as the Police Act 1893, the Criminal Code, the Prisons Act 1981, the Young Offenders Act 1984 and others. The police also draw from the common law which gives rise to many of their general powers. There is, however, no statute governing the operation and management of the cells at the court, police lockups and the transfer of prisoners between lockups and the court. In a number of key areas the law is deficient in providing powers and protections to those who work in vulnerable circumstances - in particular, the courts where judges, magistrates, court officers and members of the public are exposed. For instance, there is no statutory power to question people entering a court or to request them to produce identification. Prison officers can exercise a discretion to routinely search prisoners in their charge inside a prison

or while absent from the prison under escort. On the other hand, a police officer is not clearly empowered to search a prisoner in his charge unless there is reasonable suspicion that an offence has been committed or is about to be.

Proposed Remedies: The Bill seeks to remedy the deficiencies of current practices and to expressly provide for these services in a coherent manner requiring high standards of accountability and practice. Anomalies such as those outlined have been dealt with in this Bill to ensure consistency in service provision, the preservation of performance standards and a common approach throughout - given that services may be delivered by private or public providers. This Bill arises out of the recommendations of the Police-Justice core functions project established by the Government in September 1996 to undertake an extensive review of the current services with the objective of identifying a viable alternative procurement option. This project was formed with a steering committee comprising representatives of the Western Australia Police Service, the Ministry of Justice, the Treasury, and the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet, and chaired by an independent chairman. The cost and operation of existing services were compared with other service options. The overall purpose of the review was to relieve the Police Service and the Ministry of Justice of non-core duties relevant to the delivery of the four services of court security, court custody management, police custody management and prisoner movement. As part of this process, consideration was given to the approaches adopted in the United Kingdom, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria.

The conclusions reached by the project team resulted in a decision by the Government to market test services by inviting private companies to register interest and ultimately to submit fully costed proposals. Negotiations have taken place with a preferred respondent - selected following an exhaustive and independently monitored process of competitive tendering. Subject to a satisfactory negotiated outcome, it is proposed that the Government will enter into a five-year contract for the delivery of these services. As earlier indicated, this will result in the transfer and redeployment of the equivalent of 200 trained sworn police officers to front-line policing duties, and the equivalent of 47 trained prison officers and juvenile group workers to mainstream duties. The deployment of existing police officers, prison officers and group workers is more directly beneficial and less expensive than recruiting and training inexperienced new staff. More particularly, the deployment of trained police officers will support the Police Service strategic action statement priorities and targets, focusing especially on drugs, robberies, assaults and burglaries. In all of this, no employee of the Police Service or the Ministry of Justice will lose his or her job.

In formulating its recommendations to the Government, and finalising the service specifications, the project team consulted 50 stakeholder groups, both within and external to government. No group responded unfavourably to the Government's objectives and many commented positively on the prospect of police officers returning to core duties. Strong support was forthcoming from Aboriginal groups for a dedicated and impartial approach to the management of lockups and the transport of prisoners and accused persons.

The scope of the contract service specification also requires the contractor to carry out structural upgrades to lockups at Fremantle, Armadale, Joondalup, Midland, South Hedland and Kalgoorlie. This work will substantially accelerate the Government's ongoing implementation of the cell upgrade program consistent with the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

Proposed Changes: The approach taken in Western Australia has culminated in the introduction to this House of a single statute combining all four related services under the administration of the chief executive officer of the Ministry of Justice. It will enable the determination of the most appropriate and cost-effective means of service delivery including the framework to enter into contracts for service. The Bill will enable the authorisation of appropriately trained people to deliver the services. It will provide the necessary powers and protections to enable the delivery of a quality service that meets the expectations of not only the direct service recipients, but also the wider community. The Bill also makes provision for rigorous compliance arrangements and performance standards to ensure that the highest standards of accountability are achieved and maintained. The Ministry of Justice has developed a framework to establish a regulatory function to oversee these services. The regulatory role will be to advise the chief executive officer on the extent to which a service provided, directly or on a contractual basis, satisfies requirements for public accountability. It is proposed to be effected in a way which does not shroud arrangements for service delivery in commercial confidentiality provisions that in other places have prevented public access to operational information which should be freely available.

Under the model contemplated for the Ministry of Justice, the regulator function is independent of the function of service provision. However, under the terms of their service agreement and under the provisions of this Bill, service providers will be bound to cooperate fully with the regulator by providing free and unfettered access to facilities, documents, staff and persons in custody. It will be a statutory requirement for a contract to include provision for any contractor to submit reports in relation to obligations under the contract. Reports will include information on operational matters such as escapes, deaths in custody, emergencies and other operations incidents.

The Bill, operating in conjunction with the Court Security and Custodial Services (Consequential Provisions) Bill, makes innovative provisions for a contractor or subcontractor and his employees to be subject to scrutiny by the Ombudsman, the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Information Commissioner. The application of these public accountability arrangements to private sector service providers represents a no-nonsense approach to contract management.

I now make specific reference to the provisions of the Bill: Part 1 is preliminary and establishes the definitional framework. Part 2 relates to the administration of court security and custodial services and defines the scope of the chief executive officer's responsibilities to provide services, which fall into two broad categories of court security and custodial services. This distinction defines the separation between the provision of services to the court where regard must be given to free and unfettered public access, and the operation of court custody centres and lockups, including the security and safety of people

held in both. Provision is made for the chief executive officer's responsibility for the security, control, safety, care and welfare of persons in custody, and of intoxicated detainees as defined by their status under the law and by the circumstances in which they are placed under the chief executive officer's responsibility.

Currently, after the police have completed their inquiries and evidentiary processes, persons may be held for court purposes. Once a person has appeared in a court that person may, among other dispositions, be remanded in custody or sentenced to a custodial term, when the person then becomes a prisoner under the definition of that term in the Prisons Act or a detainee under the definition of that term in the Young Offenders Act. From that point on, both become the responsibility of the chief executive officer under the Prisons Act and the Young Offenders Act.

The status of persons in custody may arise from arrest by a police officer or other empowered officer, the order of a court, or under any other order issued under any state or commonwealth law. An example is a deportation order issued by the Minister for Immigration. The status of intoxicated detainees arises from their detention under part VA of the Police Act which requires police to apprehend people who are "seriously affected apparently by alcohol", to use the Police Act definition. For this category of person, the Bill provides for their placement in a lockup according to arrangements and safeguards prescribed in the Police Act pending their release when sober.

Under existing arrangements, involuntary patients subject to a hospital order issued under the Mental Health Act and apprehended by police for removal to a hospital may be held temporarily, pending arrangements for their transport. Because it is desirable to maintain the current arrangements for police to provide for the transport of involuntary patients, it is necessary for this Act to provide for their placement in the care of the chief executive officer pending their removal under the terms of the order.

The chief executive officer may enter into a contract with the private sector for the provision of court security and custodial services for and on behalf of the State. Arrangements may also be made with public sector providers or with the Commissioner of Police for all or part of the services. In the event that a contract is entered into, contract workers will be required to do the work. If an arrangement is made with, or there is a delegation to, the Commissioner of Police, police officers will do the work. If an arrangement is made with, or there is a delegation to, a member of the public sector, people defined in the Bill as "justice officers" will do the work. Because the Government will seek to enter into the most beneficial arrangements, there will be a combination of these approaches in some locations and certainly there will be a combination of these approaches in the remote areas of the State.

An essential element in the provision of any form of custodial service involving the management of potentially violent persons is the power to use reasonable force in defence of personal attack or to control obstructive persons. This is provided for in the Bill and is strengthened by amending the definition of "public officer" in section 1(1) of the Criminal Code to include persons under this Bill who are empowered to undertake "high-level security work". This provides them with the same protection as public officers in the legitimate conduct of their work.

It is a cornerstone of any custodial function that no persons in custody are permitted to escape from custody. This forms one of the key performance indicators of a service provided under a contract and any contractor will suffer an immediate penalty for each escape of persons in custody in their charge. An accountability provision in this Bill analogous to section 14(b) of the Prisons Act makes any authorised person liable for the escape or unlawful absence of a person in his charge.

The Bill provides that the minister may give a specific direction to the chief executive officer in respect of any function performed under the Bill. However, in so doing the minister is required, where practicable, to consult with the chief judicial officer in each jurisdiction to ensure there is no conflict between the direction the minister might wish to issue and the operation of the court. The subject matter of any direction given to the CEO by the minister is to be recorded in the annual report of the Ministry of Justice.

For reasons of ministerial accountability the chief executive officer is required to inform the minister of serious events such as escapes, deaths of persons in custody and other serious irregularities. Provision is made for the separation of adults from juveniles and for the separation of persons by gender and by custodial status to safeguard and protect them from predatory and assaultive behaviours. These provisions reflect existing practice applicable under both the Young Offenders Act and the Prisons Act.

Bans may be imposed preventing people from visiting lockups and court custody centres if they are considered to pose a threat to the security of good order of the facility. The right of entry by judges and magistrates to inspect custodial facilities operated under the Bill is also provided as a means of allowing external independent scrutiny. The independence of the courts is reflected in requirements for the chief executive officer to consult with the chief judicial officer in each court jurisdiction on matters concerning arrangements for court security and court custodial services. This ensures that the needs of the courts are communicated and taken into account in the negotiation of arrangements and contracts. The role of liaison between the chief judicial officer and the chief executive officer rests with the sheriff of Western Australia who, for the purposes of this Bill, is given a statutory function as the representative of the chief judicial officer of each jurisdiction. In this way there is a greater opportunity for consistent application of standards and conditions in the management of the functions relevant to the administration of a contract for service.

Part 3 of the Bill sets out provisions for contracts for service delivery including minimum matters required to be contained in a contract. The chief executive officer is required to determine minimum standards applicable to the provision of a service under a contract and the minister is to table those standards before each House of Parliament. Those standards also form the basis of contract reporting arrangements.

Provision is made for free and unfettered access by the minister, chief executive officer or nominee to premises, facilities,

documents and equipment controlled by a contractor and to any person in custody in the charge of a contractor. This arrangement is designed to ensure compliance with the contract and any relevant legislation, and for ensuring the good management of a service provided under a contract. This provision is modelled on similar provisions adopted by New South Wales, in the NSW Prisons Act 1952, and by Victoria, in the Victorian Corrections Act 1986. It provides a statutory mechanism for the examination, audit, investigation and observation of services and makes provision for a penalty in the event that any person seeks to hinder access by a person authorised to have access.

The Bill provides for the chief executive officer to intervene or suspend a contractor's operations. It also sets out provision for the appointment of an administrator who, at the discretion of the chief executive officer, will have control over a contractor's operation in the case of suspension of, or intervention in, a contract. The accountability provisions contained in this Bill are further enhanced with a provision for the chief executive officer to set up an inquiry into any aspect of a contractor's operation, including "any matter, incident or occurrence" concerning services delivered.

The Bill requires the chief executive officer to make an annual report to Parliament on the operation of each contract and the extent of compliance, or otherwise, with standards of service attained in delivering a service under a contract. Contract workers will not be permitted to work in the provision of "high-level security work" unless the chief executive officer approves them to do so and issues a permit. High-level security work is front-line operational work by contract workers engaged in the direct provision of court security and custodial services, as distinct from ancillary tasks such as cleaning, secretarial or vehicle maintenance services. This enables the application of screening safeguards to ensure integrity and accountability in the selection, recruitment and ongoing monitoring of the contractor's or subcontractor's work force engaged in these services. The chief executive officer retains the right to determine what may constitute high-level security work, including that which requires access to persons in custody and confidential documents. The chief executive officer is required to make a declaration to that effect for inclusion in the *Government Gazette*. The chief executive officer is to satisfy himself that persons employed by a contractor are fit and proper people and that they are fully trained to perform all aspects of the work for which they are employed. Prospective employees of a contractor need to satisfy the requirements of a police clearance including a criminal history check and check of their driving records. A consequential amendment to the provisions of the Spent Convictions Act will also enable access to information not normally available but which may identify a prospective contract worker as unsuitable for employment in the provision of services under this Bill. A permit once issued may be suspended or revoked by the chief executive officer under certain circumstances.

The chief executive officer is empowered to intervene in a contract under circumstances in which an opinion is formed there is an emergency in the service or the contractor has failed to effectively deliver a service in accordance with the contract. Termination or suspension of a contract may occur under circumstances in which the chief executive officer deems there are grounds for doing so and if it is determined that it is in the public interest to do so. Reasons for suspending or terminating a contract may include events such as the contractor becoming insolvent, where a material breach of the contract occurs, or where there is failure to rectify a breach of the contract. In any such case the chief executive officer may appoint an administrator whose task is to manage the services until such time as alternative arrangements are put in place to provide the services.

Part 4 contains provisions to ensure accountability in the management of persons in custody through safeguards to ensure the continuity of legal custody during transfer from one authority to another. Mechanisms are provided in this Bill to ensure the continuity of legal custody is maintained in all circumstances. Police and other law enforcement officers are empowered to transfer an arrested or remanded person into the charge of an authorised person for the purposes of their transport, court appearance or detention in a lockup or court custody centre in accordance with a request. Provision is also made for the transfer of intoxicated detainees held under the provisions of part VA of the Police Act for the purposes of their temporary detention. Likewise, provision is made for the transfer to accommodate the temporary charge of involuntary patients in a lockup held pending arrangements for their transfer to a mental health facility pursuant to an order made under the Mental Health Act.

Part 5 of the Bill makes provision for offences against the Act which may pose a threat to the integrity of the services, the safety and security of people involved and the community. Courts are open institutions where the right of public access must under all normal circumstances be preserved in the interests of justice. However, the nature of the business before the courts sometimes makes those who work in them, or those who have business before them, vulnerable to external threat of attack and personal injury. Those persons responsible for the transport of persons in custody and for their security in public areas are also vulnerable. Therefore, specific provision is made in this Bill to impose a penalty for those convicted of the possession of firearms and other weapons at certain custodial places, including courts. An offence of this nature dealt with before a jury may bring a term of imprisonment of seven years. It is also an offence under this Bill to hinder or resist an authorised person in the conduct of his duties. This attracts a fine of \$6 000 or 18 months imprisonment. It is also an offence under this Bill to introduce articles that are likely to cause a threat to the security, good order or management of a place for which the chief executive officer has responsibility. The applicable penalty for this offence is \$6 000 or 18 months imprisonment.

Part 6 of the Bill provides a number of miscellaneous provisions. An indemnity exists to protect persons performing functions, exercising schedule powers and doing high-level security work in good faith. However, the contractor or subcontractor is not exempted from vicarious liability for any action of an employee. Contract workers are protected from actions for false imprisonment if they act on a request under part 4 and in good faith. Contractors are also protected from any vicarious liability they have for such a contract worker.

It is desirable that a provision exist to give appropriate protection for authorised persons who come into possession of prohibited drugs and other illegal substances, firearms and other related items, during searches of persons in custody.

Authorised persons will be protected from prosecution for possession as they may otherwise become liable under the Misuse of Drugs Act or the Firearms Act, until those items are handed to police to be dealt with according to law. A confidentiality provision modelled on the provisions in the Young Offenders Act is designed to safeguard against the inappropriate use of information relating to the management of persons or services provided for in this Bill. It will be an offence to contravene this provision, which attracts a fine of \$6 000 and imprisonment for two years.

It is essential to make adequate provision to safeguard the integrity of the judicial process by way of appropriate powers and protections. A balance must be achieved between the provision of powers for the adequate safeguarding of the judicial process and the rights of individuals under the law to have access to that process. Powers necessary to give effect to the services are set out in three schedules contained in the Bill. A person or class of persons employed to provide a service in relation to this Bill will be authorised to exercise a schedule power according to the type of service they are required to deliver. Powers relate to the exercise of measures to provide court security, custodial services or apprehension.

Authorised persons will be empowered to request identification of persons seeking to enter a court and to request them to declare their intended business. Persons creating a disturbance, behaving in a disorderly manner or failing to provide satisfactory reason for being on court premises may be prevented from entering, asked to leave or removed. People seeking entry to courts together with their personal effects may be searched by the use of electronic apparatus or by hand. Searches will be along lines similar to those carried out at airport barriers, and safeguards will exist with regard to privacy, decency and self-respect.

Power is also provided in the Bill for authorised persons to take fingerprints, photographs and personal details for the purposes of identification of persons in custody in accordance with section 50AA(2) of the Police Act. This is a time-consuming task currently undertaken by police whose time can be better utilised in more important roles. It is proposed that contract workers will provide this service in lockups operated by contractors. In the interests of safety and security, authorised persons will be empowered to conduct searches and to seize the property of persons in custody. Provisions are also made for the restraint of persons in circumstances when restraint is necessary to prevent escape and to prevent self-harm or injury to others. Appropriate safeguards exist to ensure the protection of personal dignity and rights, and further measures to ensure accountability will be provided for in regulations and the chief executive officer's rules. These powers are modelled on similar provisions contained in the Prisons Act that have worked effectively in preserving good order and security in prison management.

Measures for the preservation of the discipline of persons in custody are addressed through the use of the existing provisions of the Prisons Act in relation to adults, and the Young Offenders Act in relation to young people. Complaints concerning actions allegedly committed by persons affected by this Act may be referred to the appropriate prison superintendent or to the police. This approach ensures consistency with current procedures that protect the rights of persons in custody. Again, it is intended to establish an administrative process of monitoring by the chief executive officer for the purposes of contract management. Capacity will exist to preserve security of lockups and court custody centres by providing for the power to request identification from visitors to these facilities, to deal with disorderly behaviour by visitors and to search them as required for items which may pose a threat to security. Visitors may also be refused entry or be removed in circumstances in which their behaviour poses a threat to security or good order. Procedures governing visits and communications with persons in custody will be provided for in regulations.

An ultimate control measure which the Bill makes available to authorised persons engaged in the provision of court security and custodial services is the power of apprehension, and detention without warrant, of persons under certain circumstances. This power will apply when a person has committed an offence under this Act or has escaped from custody. Such a measure is essential in circumstances when an immediate remedy is necessary to secure the custody of a person.

This Bill includes provisions to ensure the preservation of high standards of accountability and responsibility for the provision of services. Operating in conjunction with the Court Security and Custodial Services (Consequential Provisions) Bill, the arrangements extend safeguards to persons in custody regardless of their status before the law. As indicated earlier, access is given to the Ombudsman, the Information Commissioner and the Anti-Corruption Commission. I advise members in this House against the inappropriate and somewhat emotive use of the term "privatisation" as it is often applied to the contractual procurement of services to government, and the notion that in the process government divests itself of responsibility and control. This Bill does not enable the Government to shed ownership and more essentially it does not enable the Government to shed control and responsibility for the services. Both this legislation and the contract contain requirements for the highest standards of performance and accountability; specifically requirements to ensure the highest level of scrutiny, monitoring and reporting against clearly articulated service requirements and performance standards. These requirements and standards will be reported on publicly as will the performance of the contractor.

Governments have traditionally bought services from the private sector. We have a logical and well-developed extension of those arrangements into an area in which police, prison officers and juvenile justice group workers have traditionally been engaged in largely perfunctory tasks outside the scope of their core roles; tasks which do not require the skill levels the community demands from its police officers, prison officers and juvenile justice workers.

This leads me to reiterate an earlier key point which relates to the major objective set by the Government in commissioning the review of the services resulting in this Bill; that is, the direct and tangible benefits in the form of an enhanced capacity of our Police Service to return sworn police officers to front-line duties in the service of our community. The benefits of this initiative have been fully explored and reported on at length.

Consequential to this Bill, it will be necessary to amend a number of other statutes including the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, the Bail Act, the Coroners Act, the Criminal Code Act Compilation Act, the Freedom of Information Act,

the Justices Act, the Parliamentary Commissioner Act, the Police Act, the Prisons Act, the Spent Convictions Act, and the Young Offenders Act. These necessary amendments are contained in the Court Security and Custodial Services (Consequential Provisions) Bill, which I read a short time ago.

Given the need to progress the Court Security and Custodial Services (Consequential Provisions) Bill and the Court Security and Custodial Services Bill together, I shall be seeking leave for these two Bills to be debated cognately. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Hon Bob Thomas.

[Questions without notice taken.]

PORT AUTHORITIES BILL

Assembly's Message

Message received and read notifying that the Assembly had considered the amendments made by the Council and had agreed to amendments Nos 3, 5 and 7 to 18; and had agreed to amendment No 4 with a further amendment added; had disagreed to amendments Nos 19 and 20 for reasons set forth in schedule B annexed; and had disagreed to and substituted new amendments for amendments Nos 1, 2 and 6 as set forth in schedule A annexed, for the reasons set forth in schedule B annexed.

ACTS AMENDMENT (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE) BILL

Returned

Bill returned from the Assembly without amendment.

PETROLEUM SAFETY BILL

Report

Report of Committee adopted.

APPROPRIATION (CONSOLIDATED FUND) BILL (No 3)

Second Reading

Resumed from 8 December 1998.

HON JOHN HALDEN (South Metropolitan) [5.34 pm]: This Bill presents a unique opportunity, even though it relates to the Treasurer's Advances from 1996-97: It provides the opportunity for the Opposition parties to comment on the Government's economic activity two days prior to the delivery of this year's state budget. We can comment on shortfalls and perhaps advise the Government about action it should be taking.

Without doubt, Western Australia and this Government since it came to power have been blessed with some phenomenal economic growth figures. On average, growth in the past six years has averaged between 3.5 and 4 per cent per annum. In 1997-98 we had phenomenal growth of around 8 per cent. The Government has also enjoyed spectacular increases in revenue. Despite the comments of the Minister for Finance in question time in which he tried to indicate the Government's benevolence in lowering the rate of increased charges, this revenue growth has been on average between 5 and 6 per cent per annum.

This financial year coming may not be so blessed for the Government. It is fair to suggest that economic growth will be in the order of 2 or 3 per cent next year. Some of those who are politically aligned with the Government more than the Labor Party suggest that we could face a technical recession in our economy in the next two years. I now consider what occurred in the State over the past couple of years, and what is likely to occur in the future. I will not quote my figures or those which might be dreamt up by the Australian Labor Party. Syntec Economic Services Pty Ltd suggests that next year gross state demand is likely to increase by 0.7 per cent, which is to be compared with a comparable increase of 8.8 per cent in 1997-98. Even on the basis of those figures, the State is likely to face some significant problems. The issue does not end there: Gross state demand is likely to continue to decrease in the latter half of this year and into the year 2000.

Australian Bureau of Statistics figures indicate that growth in Western Australia's real demand on an annual basis is falling below zero, and in the last December quarter of 1997-98 it fell to minus 4 per cent. Overall, one can reach the realisation - supported by not only the ALP, but also the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia, the ABS and Syntec - that the heady days of phenomenal growth figures are likely to have ended, as are the days in which the State led the nation in growth. The heady days of 1997 are gone. Growth in this State is exceeded by growth in the nation. Some consequential problems are likely to arise as a result of that change.

It is important to highlight what members opposite have done in ripping off the system. In doing so, they have missed making some hard decisions. I will go into those decisions later.

Hon Simon O'Brien interjected.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The member is laughing!

Hon Simon O'Brien: I am laughing at you!

Hon JOHN HALDEN: My friend will laugh next year. The Government must do what it has not had to do in the past six years; namely, make the tough financial decisions which members opposite have avoided. I will come to that. The member will be the one who is not laughing.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Hon J.A. Cowdell): Order! The member should address the Chair.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Let us consider what the Government has had the pleasure and opportunity to oversee. I refer to some of the taxes. These are not the ones that the minister generously gave to me during question time. Let us deal with payroll taxes, taxes on property, taxes on goods and services and taxes on goods and performances.

Hon Simon O'Brien: Will you be contrasting this with the performance of the previous Government?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: We were the Robin Hoods of this. The Government has been so bad -

Hon Simon O'Brien: The people know you are the Robin Hoods; that is why they got rid of you!

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order!

Hon JOHN HALDEN: They will get rid of the Government for the same reasons: It cannot make the hard decisions. Let us consider this: In 1992-93, payroll tax was \$522m. This year it is projected to be \$760m, an increase of 38 per cent, when there is a deflator of 8.82 per cent running through that period. Therefore, the tax take was 30 per cent above the deflator. However, it did not stop there.

Hon Max Evans: You sound like an economist. I am not.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: That is right, the minister is not an economist. At the end of the day he just counts the beans, and it does not matter whom it affects.

Let us consider some of the other taxes. Debits tax is up 158.8 per cent; financial institutions duty, 32.2 per cent; land tax, 38 per cent; stamp duty on insurance policies, 118 per cent; mortgages, 59 per cent; marketable securities, 52 per cent; conveyancing, 102 per cent; motor vehicle licences, 56 per cent. Bearing in mind the deflator is 8.8 per cent, the Government is doing well. No wonder it can balance the books. Continuing with the taxes: Gambling taxes, Totalisator Agency Board, up by 41 per cent; casino tax, 24 per cent; motor vehicle licence fees, 117.5 per cent; and I say again that the deflator is nearly 9 per cent. How could the Government not balance the budget?

Let us consider what those figures mean, because I do not want to be unfair to the Government. The revenue from the taxes I referred to earlier - that is, payroll tax, taxes on property, goods and services, and goods and performances - has gone from \$1.95b to \$1.18b. When the deflator is taken out, it has still increased by 50 per cent. Before the deflator, it went up by 63 per cent. Even if the growth in population is added into it, it has still increased by 36 per cent over six years. How could the Government not balance the budget? It would be pretty amazing if the Government could not balance the budget with those revenue increases. It is fair to say that with those revenue increases, there have been issues that the Government has not been required to tackle.

Hon B.K. Donaldson: What about business and mortgage rates?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I will come to those. Do not worry. I have all the figures. The member will get his dose of it.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order! Members are getting over-excited. I call them to order.

Hon Max Evans: He is an exciting person.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Absolutely. There is no doubt that the Government has ridden on the back of those substantial revenue increases. However, it has not delivered any of this prosperity back to the people. We are still waiting for the social dividend. We understand that we will get it this time. However, we wait to see it. In these times of prosperity, there is an area in which the Government could have made some significant reforms. It said it would before the 1993 election. In fact, it was vociferous in word, but not in deed, about what it would do in this area. That can be summed up by what the Government has not done in terms of the wastage in public sector reform and restructuring. The Government has created some of that wastage, which I will deal with later. It has done nothing in those areas. If it had, it would have had more money. When we consider inflation and population increase, we find that over six years this Government had 36 per cent more revenue. With that money, in any objective situation, do we have a better health system, a better education system, a better legal aid system, a better police system that is reducing crime, and a better prisons system? The answer to all those questions is no.

With all of that money at the Government's disposal, it has not improved anything. In addition to that, it has missed a primary obligation of any Government; that is, to perpetually and consistently have its own public workforce, and particularly its own core government workforce - I will explain what I mean by that - continually under review. It has not done that. Could there be a better example of the Government's preparedness to over-expend than the money it spent in the four years between July 1994 and June 1998? Let me inform the House, by virtue of the Government's own reports, what it spent, in round figures, on consultants, in six-monthly lots: \$30m, \$35m, \$11m, \$14m, \$13m, \$11m, \$9m, \$11m. In four years the Government spent \$135m or an average of \$24m a year on consultants. I concede that some of that spending is quite legitimate. Money has always been spent on consultants. However, the Government will not allow the public sector to make some decisions. It continues to refer matters to consultants so that it has a deflector in case it receives the wrong advice. It does not say, "The public service said this is what we should do." It says, "Andersen and whoever, some other company or somebody else said to do it." We are deskilling our public workforce, making it less accountable and paying

through the nose for consultancies. This is on the basis of no concessions across the board in the past two years to those people most in need.

A typical household last year paid an additional \$172 per annum as a result of the Government's increases in taxes and charges. There was an increase of \$55 in motor vehicle registration, an additional \$12.55 in third party insurance, increases in public transport costs, an increase of \$21.40 in water, sewerage and drainage costs for a typical family, increases in stamp duty on insurance, insurance on houses, contents insurance policies, motor vehicle policies, and there was no benefit to the people in spite of a 36 per cent increase in revenue discounted against inflation and population increases.

In addition to that, having experienced great revenue growth and ripping money off people left, right and centre, the Government then wants to spend the money on things like a belltower, and it wants to fund the public sector \$100m for a convention centre. What happened about letting the market decide? The Government knows as well as I do that there is a private sector company which does not want its \$100m; it will build it free of that.

Hon B.M. Scott interjected.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am coming to education.

Hon B.M. Scott: You just said nothing was spent on education. I am just reminding you.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am coming to that. I have some interesting comments about education. Meanwhile, the Government, as the absolute supporter of the market and the private sector, is prepared to spend \$100m of taxpayers' money on subsidising a convention centre. I must say this is the greatest piece of nonsense I have ever heard, particularly when a private sector company, which is willing to comply with the Government's regulations and demands, is prepared to provide it for the Government. The Government has refused. It wants the centre to be in a more central location and to be an architectural icon - yet another one. The Government wants to spend \$100m of taxpayers' money. It is playing with the public purse.

Hon B.M. Scott: Where would you put a convention centre?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I would let the one private sector developer who wants to build it, build it.

Hon B.M. Scott: Near the gamblers?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Yes.

Hon B.M. Scott: Is that where you would build it?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Yes, absolutely. Members opposite believe in market forces - where does the member suggest that it be built?

Hon B.M. Scott: In the centre of the city.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: How does she suggest that people be transported to that location, bearing in mind that there is not enough accommodation available in the city? How would people get there?

Hon B.M. Scott: By train.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Where will they reside, in which hotels? There are not enough beds available in the city and there is no capacity to transport them through the city streets when they need to be transported. The member is barking up the wrong tree.

The point should not be lost; it is just another example of the Government wasting money. I looked on the web site to get some information about the number of people employed in the public sector. I am aware that the Public Sector Management Office says that the number of people covered by the broad definition of public servant has decreased. However, the Australian Bureau of Statistics provides some figures for wage and salary earners in state government employment from November 1993 to November 1998. I have more confidence in the ABS figures, although I was surprised by them. It is interesting that the number of state government employees in Western Australia over that period increased by 5.5 per cent, and that was the second highest increase in the nation. It was beaten only by New South Wales, which had a 6.6 per cent increase.

Hon Max Evans: That is a Labor Government, of course.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: It is indeed.

Hon Max Evans: What is the increase in numbers?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The figure went from 99 200 to 104 700.

Hon Max Evans: It is probably recorded as 120 000, taking in the statutory authorities.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The Government's figure is on the web site, and it states that the figure is 89 000.

Hon Max Evans: You have that figure plus those employed by the statutory authorities.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Whatever it is, these ABS figures compare apples with apples, whether or not the minister agrees with them. Over the same period the Federal Government's public sector work force dropped by 18.2 per cent from 178 600

to 146 100. This State Government claims to be doing many things but it avoids the hard issues in an area that consumes enormous amounts of government revenue.

I then went through the interesting exercise of looking at the figures for the Education Department, and I was surprised at the comparative numbers of full-time employees over that period. I must admit that I thought the Government had pillaged and raped this department quite extensively in terms of the number of FTEs, not at the teacher level but at the level of cleaners, gardeners and the like. However, in June 1992 the Education Department had 23 169 FTEs and in June 1998 it had 24 859. That is an increase of 7.2 per cent.

Hon Max Evans: We were building new schools for an expanding number of students.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I understand that, but the increase of 7.2 per cent well exceeds the expansion in population figures. From that figure must be taken the 1 000 FTEs designated as gardeners and cleaners, whose functions were contracted out. In essence, the increase has been far higher, probably in the order of 14 per cent. It is interesting that there has been an increase of 14 per cent in the number of FTEs in the Education Department, but there are still not enough teachers employed in country areas. I understand that eight full time positions are not yet filled in the Kalgoorlie education district. The department has a range of problems, but seemingly there has been a blowout in the number of FTEs employed. I suggest, however, that the increase is not at the teacher level.

Hon B.M. Scott: There were 450 new ones in the early childhood sector alone.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am talking about an increase of almost 2 700 over six years. The Government may have increased the teacher ratio by 1 000, but the point is that the blowout is because the Government has decentralised this department and allowed the mini bureaucracies to garnish FTEs all over the place. I know this has happened, and that this area has not been properly supervised. People in those districts acknowledge that the growth in bureaucracy has occurred in district offices. I concede that the Government has created more positions for teachers, but much of this growth is not at the coalface.

Hon B.M. Scott: It is where you wanted it - decentralised into the regions.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The present Government has administrated it. After six years, it cannot keep shifting responsibility to the previous Government, and this present Government has not maintained control over the system.

I refer to another, but smaller, example which surprised me. In June 1993 Fisheries WA had 170 FTEs. Do members know how many are estimated in this year's budget? It is 354 - an increase of 108 per cent in six years. I have had some dealings with Fisheries WA, and I am sure no-one in this place would suggest that the department needed an increase of 108 per cent in six years. I am trying to be fair.

There is no doubt that the number of FTEs in the Police Service has increased from 5 426 to 6 042. We know that is a result of additional police officers being employed and because some FTEs have been transferred from administrative duties to police duties. I accept that as a legitimate increase. However, there have been significant movements in other areas. In the Department of Resources Development the number of FTEs increased from 86 to 102; in the Department of Environmental Protection it increased from 140 to 213; and in the Ministry for Planning it increased from 214 to 239. They are not spectacular increases. I remember sitting in this Chamber in 1992 listening to members opposite say how they would reform and restructure this area, but they have not. In Agriculture Western Australia the increase was from 1 626 to 1 630; in the Department of Commerce and Trade the figure moved from 187 to 185; and in the Department of Conservation and Land Management from 1 334 to 1 338. Many departments maintained the status quo.

Hon B.M. Scott: It does not mean we have not reformed and restructured.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The Government has not done that. I am trying to be fair. I am not taking outrageous examples. The Government has not done it at all. In an attempt to be fair, I have compared only those departments whose functions in 1992-93 are similar to those they now perform. I could have compared the figures for the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet, and that would reveal a significant increase in the number of FTEs, but its role has also changed significantly. It would be unfair to compare the figures in that department. I am comparing apples with apples, and I find that the Government has not addressed the issue. No attempt has been made to control the growth in the number of FTEs in the Education Department at the district level. No attempt has been made to restructure Agriculture Western Australia, in spite of the fact that it has been contracting out jobs to a significant extent and it retains the same number of FTEs.

Sitting suspended from 6.00 to 7.30 pm

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I was going through FTE allocations in various departments from 1992-93 until now. If anyone is under any illusion that I was being anti-worker, I want to make it clear that I was not. I am anti-waste. In all of those departments that I have highlighted and may want to refer to further in this speech, although their FTEs may have grown or remained relatively constant over a long period, the Government has organised a whole range of contracting out. It justified contracting out on the basis that FTE allocations would clearly fall. We all know the areas in which the Government has contracted out. They include human resources, telephonist duties, secretarial duties, nursing in the Health Department, welfare and counselling services in the Disability Services Commission and Family and Children's Services, and security, cleaning and gardening in the Ministry of Justice. As the Government has done that, one would have thought that in a whole range of departments FTE allocations would have decreased.

Hon Simon O'Brien: In those particular areas.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Of course.

Hon Simon O'Brien: Are you saying that they have not decreased in those areas?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am indeed. I can present no clearer example than that of the Education Department. I pointed out to the Minister for Finance that in Agriculture Western Australia FTE allocations over the past six years have remained constant, but a whole range of technical and professional jobs have been contracted out. I accept contracting out from an economic perspective. However, one must offset that against the existing staff FTE allocation. That has not been the case. I can only deal with the facts that the Government has presented to me in budgets or I have gathered on the Internet or received from the Public Service Management Office. The argument is not anti-jobs; it is anti-waste. If the Government is to claim that it will create efficiencies by contracting out and save money by reducing the FTE allocation, they must be clearly ascertainable. The realities are that they are not.

The Government has contracted out jobs to the private sector and said that it would save money. The Government has repeatedly lectured us about its ability to do that. Tonight the Minister for Justice introduced two Bills which again referred to saving money by contracting out court security and custodial services. I will refer to a recent example. The Minister for Transport will be interested in it. I refer to road maintenance costs and what has happened with contracting out from 1993-94 to 1997-98. Looking at the cost of per kilometre lane maintenance across the State, one sees that in the metropolitan area, as a result of contracting out over this relatively short period, costs have gone from \$6 131 per kilometre lane to \$19 795 per kilometre lane.

Hon M.J. Criddle: It depends on what one does and whether roads are restructured. You must compare apples with apples.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I understand the apples with apples concept but we are talking about apples and non-apples, as it were, because there is a threefold increase in the cost of metropolitan road maintenance.

Hon M.J. Criddle: It depends on what one does, surely.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Of course it does, but over the period the same road maintenance, more minor road maintenance and, of course, more structurally significant road maintenance will be carried out. I concede that. However, the minister must concede that a threefold increase really is difficult to justify. I am no road maintenance engineer, but I look at the figures. The minister's predecessor promised us that road maintenance would be a lot cheaper under a contracting-out system.

Hon M.J. Criddle: We have not contracted out road maintenance.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: It has been contracted out in a whole range of areas. When one looks at the whole cost of this item through the south west, the goldfields-Esperance area and the mid west -

Hon M.J. Criddle: I have seen the figures.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Nobody else has, so I will mention them for members' edification. I am sure the minister does not want me to do this.

Hon M.J. Criddle: I am more than happy for you to do so.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: In the mid west, the wheatbelt south and the wheatbelt north one sees enormous increases in the costs of contracting out. In the south west the cost has gone from \$1 848 per kilometre lane to \$7 461. I am so pleased that we have been able to get a cheap system to do this! In the wheatbelt north the cost has gone from \$2 154 per kilometre lane to \$8 580 per kilometre lane. If that is the increase in cost, has the quality -

Hon M.J. Criddle: Do you understand contracting out has not yet come into phase with those maintenance services?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: It has in some areas.

Hon M.J. Criddle: In only two areas.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: What are they?

Hon M.J. Criddle: The wheatbelt, and in the past couple of years -

Hon JOHN HALDEN: That is the one I have referred to that has increased by 400 per cent.

Hon M.J. Criddle: We have not put in place the term-network contracts for maintenance.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: A lot of maintenance work is contracted out, is it not?

Hon M.J. Criddle: Some is.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am appreciative of the minister's comments. One of the criteria which I understand is used to assess whether road maintenance work has been successful is the roughness.

Hon M.J. Criddle: Yes.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I understand that there is a decline in that.

Hon M.J. Criddle: It is starting to go the other way, which you will see if you look at the graphs.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I understand that it is much more significant than that.

Hon M.J. Criddle: It has certainly got more significant.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I will accept the minister's word that it is now starting to decline.

Hon M.J. Criddle: Minimally it is.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The minister and I can have a debate about who is doing what; however, he is now admitting that one of the criteria for assessing road maintenance work is starting to minimally decline.

Hon M.J. Criddle: No, I said the roughness is starting to decline. The member must remember that the agent it erodes is significant and we must take that into consideration also in this debate.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I understand that. However, at the end of the day this is an issue about getting the best performance out of the public's dollar.

Hon M.J. Criddle: Yes, and we are doing that.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The minister's own words, by way of interjection, do not suggest that. It is a simple equation to work out whether what has occurred in the past six years is working. I have suggested to the House tonight that if the Government's running of the public sector at its broadest extent is working, there should be an improvement in the quality of service. Do we see that in the health system? Do we see it in the education system? Do we see it in prisons? Do we see it in legal aid? No.

Hon M.J. Criddle: I cannot answer that.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Of course the minister cannot. At best the minister is saying our road system is in a status quo situation. Do we see any significant reforms in the output from the 43 departments that make up the core Public Service? I do not think we do. There has been contracting out at an average of \$24m a year for various projects, some of which is justified. There has been a whole range of other contracting out of jobs but no significant reduction of full-time equivalents in those departments which are comparable. At the end of the day what does one measure this against? There are not many pluses for the general community in all of that.

In 1992-93 the Labor Government spent \$5.229b to provide a service that the then Opposition told us was not up to scratch. Today, six years later, it is estimated that this Government spends \$7.81b, an increase of almost 50 per cent. Where are the significant gains for the community? Where are the improvements? Where are the social dividends promised by the Government? Where are the efficiencies in the Public Service promised by the Government? Where are the benefits in lower taxes and charges? One must bear in mind the figures I quoted earlier in the speech, which are just so far above the inflation rate that surely any reasonable business would be embarrassed at that profit level. However, the Government is not embarrassed because I heard comments from that side of the House that it was all wonderful. In times of prosperity the Government has exploited the high revenue growth. I concede to the Minister for Finance a lowering in the rate of the taxation level, but the Government has received huge increases in the total revenue gained.

Hon Bob Thomas: There has been a reduction in the quality of services.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Even if my colleague is correct that there has been a reduction in services or even if it is status quo, in six years with 8.872 per cent inflation the Government has slugged - there is no other word for it - the taxpayer for an additional 50 per cent. It does not balance. I say to the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Transport that this should be done in a reasonable way that would deliver the Government further opportunities for reform. The Government is hoist with its own petard. It is the area of public sector reform, however, in every area where the Government said it could contract out -

Hon M.J. Criddle: We definitely have better services in public transport in Perth. We have put on more buses and trains. I cited the central area transit buses today which are in place and are significantly better.

Hon Bob Thomas: Catch a bus.

Hon M.J. Criddle: I have. Have you?

The PRESIDENT: Order! Hon John Halden has the floor.

Hon Max Evans: With revenue, we are suffering from reduced financial assistance grants. It was \$1.596b in 1992-93 and \$1.591b now. That is a quarter of our total state budget. That is the compensating factor and one must take into account all the reasons for the growth.

Hon Simon O'Brien interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Perhaps we can have the committee debate now and save time later.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Mr President, I intend to keep going.

Hon Simon O'Brien: We are not getting out of it that lightly.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: No, we are not. The Minister for Transport is leaving.

Hon M.J. Criddle: No, I am not.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Sorry, I do not want to be outrageous.

Hon Max Evans: No, he is enjoying every minute of it.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I did not mean to make that implication, but I wanted him to stay.

Hon M.J. Criddle: I am.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: One of the issues is motor vehicle licence fees. That assists significantly in his portfolio.

Hon M.J. Criddle: Absolutely.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: There has been a 117.5 per cent increase.

Hon M.J. Criddle: Yes.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Those figures were given to me tonight by the Minister for Finance. The Government should be able to create a better system given that the price deflator is 8.82 per cent, but instead it has slugged the taxpayers 110 per cent above the inflation rate.

Hon M.J. Criddle: Are those the figures since the Transform WA package came into place?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: This is 1992-93 and 1998-99. I do not know when the Transform WA package came in.

Hon M.J. Criddle: It was a significant part.

Hon Max Evans: There has also been a large increase in the number of cars, not the rate per licence fee.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Hang on, minister. Members opposite delight in trying to do this. The increase in cars is probably a reflection of nothing more than the per capita increase in the population. There cannot be too many more cars per head of population than currently in the State. This State's population has probably the most cars in the world per capita. However, even taking the significant population increase into account from 1992-93 when it was 1.667m people to 1998-99 when it is estimated to be 1.840m people, we still end up with a per capita increase in taxation of between 34 and 36 per cent.

Hon Simon O'Brien: That has whittled it down from the 110 per cent.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: That is over all taxes. It is difficult for Hon Simon O'Brien to understand; however, he cannot keep running around like the Minister for Finance.

Hon Bob Thomas: He needs another bus stop question.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Exactly. However, I will not go into bus stop questions.

The PRESIDENT: Order! If Hon John Halden will address me, I am sure we will make some progress.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am trying to educate the ministers opposite. They cannot justify their positions when they provide me with these figures and one analyses them with the budget. I am just a simple lad really, but when one conducts an analysis and takes into account all the variables to try to make an absolutely fair comparison of apples with apples, the Government really has had it good. Basically, its days of making excuses for how good it has had it are about to come to an end because it may get to a position where things will be more difficult.

One must bite the bullet. This should occur in the area of public sector restructuring. I am being very helpful to the Government. In 1991-92, members opposite were the proponents of slash and burn, cut, rape and everything else for that evil body called the Public Service.

Hon Max Evans: You use those words - we did not do that.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The Government did not do it. I was here - members opposite used the words when in opposition.

Hon Max Evans: You used the words.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I remember how anti-Public Service they were. However, 43 government departments basically comprise the draw on the consolidated fund. Members opposite have squibbed the issue and they know it. Their colleague in Victoria did not squib the issue. We have 43 government departments, with 100-plus statutory authorities in this State. Do we need them all? I suggest not. Members opposite told me in 1991-92, and prior to that, that we did not need them all. What did the Victorian colleague of members opposite do? He managed to reduce the Public Service in a State with a population four times larger than ours to eight departments. I know that our Treasury has looked at that matter.

Hon Max Evans: I know.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: But the minister has done nothing about it.

Hon Max Evans: I do not agree with it.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: It was looked at by Treasury two years ago. Enormous benefits can accrue from such a change. I will go through this very important point. Victoria has eight departments; namely, Premier and Cabinet, Treasury and Finance, State Development, Education, Human Services, Justice, Infrastructure, and Natural Resources and Environment. I do not agree with eight departments as it is too restrictive.

Hon Simon O'Brien: I agree.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The member is right; I will write to Jeff and tell him what was said - he will be pleased.

We can reduce the number to between 15 and 20 government departments. Why could one not combine into a department of primary industry some combination of agriculture, fisheries and timber production, which are the epitome of primary production? Rather than having three chief executive officers and a raft of well-paid executives to manage three departments, one could have one executive. Of course one could. One could make economies of scale savings with asset rationalisation. Money could be saved. One could use the savings to train the work force to make it more professional, and more savings could be made. Of course that can be done. Members opposite have had six years in which they have squibbed the issue of rationalisation in this simple way. Maybe their colleague in Victoria went over the top; however, he had the philosophy right. People opposite lived off the back of massive increases in revenue and did not go to the heart of reforming the public sector. This was not necessarily to slash and burn the number of people in the service. They did not go to the primary reforming issue: What do we need, and how do we best deliver services?

I cannot be told that we could not have a department of family and children's services which includes the aged and youth agencies under one directorship and department. Little bureaucracies are found everywhere, all of which have CEOs on inflated salaries, with people under them also on inflated salaries. These people all drive around in government-provided cars receiving little packages which are not warranted in terms of their total benefit to the State. Savings are to be made. We have duplication of assets. For six years members opposite have avoided the hard decisions. The challenge stands: Are the hard decisions to be part of Thursday's budget? If not, they will not be in the following year's pre-election budget. Hon Simon O'Brien nods, and he is right.

Hon Simon O'Brien: I was nodding off.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I can see that.

Hon Bob Thomas: Noddy!

Hon JOHN HALDEN: After the question he asked in question time, Hon Simon O'Brien should nod off.

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! I cannot hear what is going on.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am yelling as hard as I can, Mr President.

The PRESIDENT: Yes. I do not need that; I need fewer interjections. I am listening to Hon John Halden.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: We have an Education Department, a Curriculum Council and a department for vocational training and whatever else it does. We have three departments instead of one, with all the associated infrastructure costs with buildings around the city and the State. It is a nonsense. Members opposite have squibbed in that area. Government members told us they were better economic managers than members on this side of the House.

Hon Simon O'Brien: Everybody in the State knows that to be true.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: No. They are starting to wake up. Ask the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia; ask the Chamber of Minerals and Energy; ask the National Bank of Australia; and ask all economic commentators. They want people opposite to start focusing in-house. Government members has lived off the back of externalities; namely, growth with which primarily members opposite had nothing to do; international commodity prices, with which members opposite had absolutely nothing to do -

Hon Ray Halligan: Do you want to take credit for it?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: If the member wants to make a stupid statement, he should go ahead; it adds nothing to this debate. I do not. That is the best I can expect from that member. He can go back to sleep.

Can members imagine an eight-department public sector when one wants a whole-of-government approach? One could sit them down in a room a quarter the size of this Chamber. Currently, 43 government departments - with 100-plus government agencies - need to be brought together; one would need to hire the Hyatt ballroom! It could not be done. No-one is accountable because one cannot point the finger at a small, select group of people on high salaries and say, "You people are responsible for achieving a whole-of-government approach." Kennett to his eternal credit can say, "You eight are responsible. Come back to me with the plan and the line of implementation. We as politicians will apply it." People opposite would not know where to start. They have 150 to 200 people to choose from. Who will be made responsible for a whole-of-government approach? The Premier?

Hon Barry House: I will send this speech to Stephen Bracks.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Send it to whom the member likes. It will be a damned sight more popular reading than some speeches made in here by certain members of the Crown!

The reality is that members opposite have squibbed again. They have not made people accountable. They cannot have a whole-of-government approach. Think of graffiti, which is not the biggest issue in the world. Who would be needed - thinking off the top of my head - for a whole-of-government approach to graffiti: Police; Family and Children's Services; Transport; probably the East Perth and Subiaco development authorities -

Hon Max Evans: The Ministry of the Arts.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Yes, the Ministry of the Arts - I thank the minister; the Department of Local Government -

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Justice.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Justice. We already have eight departments, and we have only another 150-plus agencies to go through! Members opposite are a joke. They talk about a divine right to manage the economy as they know it better. That is rubbish!

Members admit that my argument is correct through their interjections. I am delighted. I thought that maybe I had picked the wrong example, but I knew I had the right example as members opposite added to my speech.

Of course, a range of other people would probably then need to be involved in such a matter. However, at the end of the day, the concept of a whole-of-government approach brings with it significant economic benefits, significant time savings, and ultimately significant benefits to the community because the policies the Government wants to deliver can be delivered or, if not delivered, those who did not do so are made accountable. However, the Government cannot do it because it has this enormous mess of bureaucracy.

I will continue because I am starting to enjoy this speech. I will also point out what the Government has not done.

Hon Simon O'Brien: You are in the minority once again.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Does the member want to take a vote? I bet it will be 17:16, and the Government will be in the minority. Do not come that one with me.

Hon Bob Thomas: Anyway, two of us always beat all of you.

The PRESIDENT: Order! If Hon Simon O'Brien and Hon Bob Thomas want to say something to each other, would they do the right thing and leave the Chamber so that the rest of us can listen to Hon John Halden.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I will deal with other areas in which the Government has added, quite unjustifiably, to the cost of its own Public Service. These are areas in which the Government has not controlled the cost of it. The old issue of bracket creep is nothing new to any Government because bureaucracies always try to increase the level under which people are paid. This situation has continued healthily under this Government. My wife raised this point with me. A fortnight ago she saw a job advertised in *The West Australian* which she performed about 13 years ago. It was in a different named department but the job was the same. When she performed that job it was a level 2; it was advertised in *The West Australian* as a level 5. It was the same job, with no differentiation whatsoever in job description. There may have been the odd difference with the number of people going through, although it was not significant. However, the Government has allowed that to go on. It has taken the finger off the pulse because of revenue growth.

However, there is a better example, and it is a lovely example because the Government is hoisted with its own petard: That is the issue of workplace agreements. I chose this example randomly before I came into the House. I refer to "InterSector", volume 5, No 8, of 28 April 1999. I will deal with what public servants are paid under an enterprise bargaining agreement or a workplace agreement. Before doing that, I will highlight the significance of this with respect to electorate officers. I make no comment about anyone's electorate officers, including my own. However, I know that mine, of their own choice, are working under an EBA. They miss out on some \$1 500 a year because of that. However, when compared with what other people's electorate officers may have given up, the difference is basically three days' short leave and two days' annual leave. The pay differentiation is \$1 500. I know what they get paid per day. We are talking about definitely two days, maybe three days, at best five days. However, the Government has provided \$1 500 to this small group of people for what equates to approximately, in the worst case scenario, \$750. However, it has done that all over the Public Service because it has been wasteful and ideologically driven about workplace agreements.

I will go through the positions in this edition of "InterSector" one by one. I deal first with the financial services supervisor, financial services, in the Anti-Corruption Commission, which is a level 5 position. Under a workplace agreement, the salary is \$47 488 to \$52 485 per annum. Interestingly, it states that under a workplace agreement one gets six weeks' annual leave, plus that salary. Alternatively, a person can be employed under the enterprise agreement, under which I presume, although it is not stated here, he receives four weeks' annual leave and \$45 712 to \$50 522. We now have the reverse. The Government is giving people an additional 10 days' pay but it is paying them effectively \$2 000 more. That is pretty sensible, good, sound public sector management.

I turn to the next page. The academic support officer printing, School of Art, Design and Media, which is a level 3 position, receives \$37 912 to \$41 163 per annum under a workplace agreement, and \$36 494 to \$39 623 per annum under an enterprise agreement. Effectively, that is again a difference of \$2 000. We know what they have traded off. They have traded off two days' annual leave and three days' short leave. That does not equate to \$2 000 a year, but that is what was traded off.

The next position is the student administration coordinator at Central West College of TAFE, Academic and Training Services, which is level 4. Under the EBA, the salary is \$41 093 to \$43 430 per annum, and under the workplace agreement it is \$42 689 to \$45 118 per annum. I do not want to bore everyone to the point of monotony.

Hon Kim Chance: I came back specially to hear you.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am glad to see Hon Kim Chance. This continues for many pages. For every job advertised where there is an EBA or a workplace agreement, there is a significant differential in favour of the workplace agreement. Basically we know what has been traded off, and there is little room for negotiation at the edge. At the end of the day, the

Government, to prove an ideological position, has cost the taxpayers of this State significant amounts of money. However, I was pleased to hear the Minister for Finance admit by way of interjection that Treasury had conducted a review of this matter. What have we seen as a result of that? We have seen absolutely nothing, because the Government did not have to do anything. It was living on the back of significant revenue increases. However, it might not be doing that in 1999-2000, and public sector reform and restructuring may well be an issue that the Government will need to address seriously. It should have addressed it a long time ago. If it had, there would have been significantly larger amounts of money available to the community.

I have probably tried to justify some of the reasons that this has happened. However, there are many more, and I will spend a little time in this speech tonight going through some of them. I am sure that the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Mines, although he is not here, understand more about this matter than I do. The Minister for Mines particularly would be more concerned than I am because I do not know everything about it.

There is no doubt that 1997-98 was a spectacular year for state growth, with figures of 8 per cent and higher. The difficulty is that it is expected to slow substantially. Last year's outcome was boosted by growth in business investment of more than 50 per cent. Construction investment has accounted for as much as three-quarters of the growth in Western Australia. What did Access Economics say about these figures? It said that it could be seen from any comparison of the figures for December 1996 and those for 1997 that the total investment in projects in this State was dropping. In 1997 it was \$62b; in 1996 it was \$65b. In 1996 there was \$32b worth of possible investment, and by 1997 that had dropped to \$14b. There were indications that the "under construction" part of the investment in December 1998 was at \$9b, which was an increase of \$3b on the previous year. The difficulty is that there were no committed investment figures for the future. This State has gone through the peak and is now going over the top. Employment opportunities and investment were at record high levels, but as the projects start, those figures drop off. Employment and investment decrease.

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Look at one of the reasons.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: What is that?

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Native title.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I knew that would happen. I was just waiting for someone to say that. I love hearing that!

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Talk to the mining companies.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I am delighted to hear the member say that. It is interesting that he should say it, and I am pleased that he proffered that explanation. The only difficulty is that the Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia stated in a document that I recently read that several large projects will move from the construction phase to the operational stage without obvious replacement on the same scale. The mining sector is also under pressure from lower commodity prices.

Hon B.K. Donaldson: That is another reason.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The member did not suggest that earlier; he referred only to native title. He just wanted to be simplistic and throw a few barbs around. This is a significant area of the economy and when this area goes to those points in its cycle, there is one consequence; that is, unemployment will, and the Chamber of Minerals and Energy expects it to, rise this year. That statement has been made by the Chamber of Minerals and Energy. Also, a fall in the production and value of commodities will reduce royalty payments to the State. It has nothing to do with native title. It is strange that members opposite are now not interjecting. Native title is an issue that needs to be resolved, but it must be done in a much more mature way than is currently the case. The Chamber of Minerals and Energy is being intellectually mature about native title and it is not playing a political game. I do not have the document with me to which I referred, but I am happy to obtain a copy for Hon Bruce Donaldson. The chamber is mature in its assessment of the problems for its industry and this State in the short term. The Chamber of Minerals and Energy also said that the minerals industry has been turbo-charging its economy but that the impetus is now slowing. No-one would doubt that. Based on that assessment, the days of state revenue increasing annually by 5 per cent or 6 per cent are in jeopardy. What does that mean to members opposite?

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Commodity prices are cyclic in nature and recover very quickly.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I have said that they are cyclic. I now refer to the Chamber of Minerals and Energy and the document it published which deals with the commodity price index. It is clear from the graph in that document that by December 1998 the commodity prices had dropped below the level anticipated in 1993. Also, the underlying inflation rate on goods and services is well above commodity prices. That means a couple of things will happen. First, the only commodities to be mined will be those from which a profit can be made. Also, stockpiles - there are a considerable number of stockpiles of minerals in this State currently - will increase for a short period and then mining will stop. A situation will be reached whereby those mines will be closed and jobs will be lost. This industry must then wait for commodity prices to rise. I concede that commodity prices are cyclic, and when they rise the stockpile will be used to fund the people supplying the State. The issue is that in 1999-2000 the Government will face a problem because the graph clearly identifies December 1998 as the time when commodity prices will take a nosedive. The Government must deal with that. I understand that it is all different. Iron ore is down and flat; diamonds are flat -

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Oil is up.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The price of oil is rising from a record low. I know the member likes to put the best spin on things. Nickel is going through the floor and gold has its own problems. A number of issues surround gold prices, but at the end of the day the Government has a problem.

I have another interesting graph from the ABS. Again, December 1998 is significant for business investment in the mining industry and other sectors of the economy. Until 1997, investment in the mining industry was running at just below \$2.5b and the levels in other sectors were well below that. In December 1998 the mining industry and other sector investment in this State converged. Previously, there had been a significant difference between mining investment and all the other sectors of the economy, and mining investment was much higher, but mining investment has taken a nosedive and the two figures meet. As a consequence, jobs have been lost.

Let us consider that issue on the basis of the analysis by Syntec Economic Services Pty Ltd. Its analysis of employment growth and vacancies, which is based on the ANZ job vacancies index, is that in 1999-2000, growth in jobs will be nil.

In fact for a short period, it is below the nil line. The trend series of the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows that, although since about March 1996 Western Australia's growth in employment has been above the national average, it is now equivalent to the national average and is about 2 per cent. Interestingly, the unemployment rate in ABS figures at March 1999 shows that the national and state averages converge at above 6 per cent. Since March 1992, the state unemployment average has been well below the national average.

What does that mean in terms of the Government's budget? It means, as I read the important document I received from the Minister for Finance during question time -

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Are you going to talk about increased debt?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I will get to that. It indicates that since 1993, despite a reduction in the level of payroll tax as it is levied, it has increased by 47.4 per cent while we have had 8.82 per cent inflation. In taxation from employers, the Government has picked up a little less than 40 per cent above the inflation rate. What would a drop in employment mean? It would mean that the tax that it has been creaming off at 40 per cent above inflation would be less than the Government expected. Even worse, it also knows that - this is not me who is saying this; I bet members opposite have been to the other place to hear it said - growth will be in small business which does not pay payroll tax and which basically employs people part-time.

Again, members opposite have lived off the back of supernumerary increases in revenue. It is unbelievable. They have made no difficult decisions but now they may have to bite the bullet. I bet that on Thursday they do not do that because they have so much enjoyed that revenue.

Hon Bob Thomas: They are lucky.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Exactly; they are lucky. The decline is not only in payroll tax. To prove my point about employment prospects, the National Australia Bank produced a business confidence scale recently which compared business confidence in Western Australia with that of Australia. For a long time during the period 1995-97 Western Australian businesses were superior in confidence vis a vis Australian businesses. However, now the confidence level in Australia is about 10 per cent and in Western Australia it is about 3 per cent.

Hon B.K. Donaldson: Does that include Tasmania?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Tasmania has been part of Australia for a long time!

Hon Bob Thomas: Don't tell him that, you will confuse him!

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I know. I am quoting figures put out by the National Australia Bank, which I suggest in all confidence would be in no way intending to support either the Australian Labor Party or the Liberal Party. Its aim would be to provide a clear analysis. For a period in the mid-nineties until 1998 Western Australian business confidence was well above the national average. Now, business conditions and confidence in Australia are about 5 per cent; in this State it is minus 10 per cent. Business investment as again reported to us by Syntec Economic Services Pty Ltd - another organisation not necessarily sympathetic to a political party suggests that the sale of the Dampier to Bunbury pipeline sent business investment off the scale in 1997-98, the year we had 8 per cent plus growth, and consequently sees a large dip in 1998-99. It says that equipment investment is expected also to wind back in 1999-2000. Business investment for the period 1999 to beyond 2002 is predicted to be in the negative. That will have a significant impact on jobs. All of that will have a significant impact on the amount of payroll tax the Government will receive because investment decisions will be made by big business. We know that royalties will be reduced. If the Minister for Mines were here tonight I am sure he would tell us that. Everybody is telling us that. I notice the minister's quietness but I am sure he would like to tell us that.

There is good news - not spectacular news - for the Government regarding stamp duties. There is likely to be a small rise in the domestic building industry. Dwelling investment in this State is continuing to slowly increase. Irrespective of whether we take the National Australia Bank, ABS or Syntec statistics, which is the most negative because it shows a decline in dwelling investment in 1999, the others all show that at least it will maintain its position or improve marginally. The Government may well enjoy some stability, if not marginal increases in stamp duty.

I am sure that the Minister for Racing and Gaming will not want to argue too extensively with me when I say that there may well be a little problem with gambling taxes. They might fall a little.

Hon Max Evans: Why?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: As a result of the Burswood Casino.

Hon Max Evans: There are no problems there.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: It is interesting that the minister says that. The mid-year statement seems to suggest otherwise and

others have suggested it to me. Although it is not a long-term trend, casino taxes have been reducing. The minister should not play games with me. He knows they are going down slowly. He knows the casino people want concessions. Why do they want concessions? Because their taxes are declining? The minister should not speak nonsense to me.

Hon Max Evans: We get taxed on what it loses.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The minister is an accountant and I may be a basic grade economist -

Hon Max Evans: We will get \$48m or \$50m.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The minister said \$48m each year. This is the minister's regime from which he has been benefitting through increases of 100 per cent over six years - an average of approximately 12.5 per cent each year - and he is telling me that it is bottoming out. It is going down in real terms. The minister should not be silly when he speaks to me. His own answer tells me the nonsense of his statement. He knows it is happening. I have spoken to the Burswood Casino people who have told me the situation. The minister knows the nonsense he speaks is not correct. I have read his mid-year Treasury statements and spoken to Treasury. We know why the Burswood Casino people want to have a convention centre. The minister should not give me this rubbish.

Hon Max Evans: My lips are sealed!

Hon JOHN HALDEN: That is not the end of it. Departmental revenue is likely to remain at a stable level. The years of 5 per cent to 6 per cent real revenue growth per capita are over. Payroll tax is struggling. Royalties are struggling, if not down. Gambling taxes are struggling. Departmental revenue is likely to be static. From where will the minister get the rest of the money? He will not get it from the Federal Government, because he has already told me that his share from the Federal Government has been going down over the past few years, and I accept that. The GST will not help. The Government will have four years of being no better off and no worse off.

Hon Max Evans: We are projecting what our growth will be over the next four years. We will be no worse off.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Exactly, but the Government will be no better off either. We have some problems. This State has the highest rate of growth per head of population of any State. The demands that will be placed on the State Government will be considerably larger, while we will be no worse off, nor better off, from the Federal Government, and we will have a smaller own-sourced revenue base in the longer term after the middle of 2000. The fiscal vertical imbalance is more problematic for us than it ever was before. The economy is suffering from a downturn, or is static, yet the Government has still not addressed the basic problem of its in-house, public sector performance and expenditure. It is clear that the Government has squibbed on dealing with these issues. It is clear that time and time again, the Government has lost the opportunity to restructure, reform and re-evaluate what it is doing in the public sector. In fact, the Government has made the situation worse, particularly by introducing workplace agreements.

The Treasurer has said that Western Australia has been fire-proofed against the Asian economic crisis. The downturn in commodity prices demonstrates that that is not true. It is clear that the Asian economic crisis will be a continuing problem. The National Australia Bank East Asian gross domestic product forecast indicates that of our major trading partners, Japan is likely to experience no growth; Indonesia and Malaysia are likely to experience negative growth; and Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, China, Korea and Taiwan are likely to experience growth figures that are half of what they experienced between 1993 and 1995. Western Australia is the biggest exporter of natural resources in this nation, and we have lived off that advantage for all of this decade. The major countries to which we export our commodities are experiencing significant difficulties, yet the Treasurer would have us believe that this State has been fire-proofed! What a nonsense! The Minister for Mines should tell us by how much royalties will be reduced next year compared with three years ago. I bet he has nightmares about that. I bet the Minister for Finance also has nightmares about that, because he knows they are not up to the levels of previous years. He knows that there is considerable volatility in the global economic market.

Hon Max Evans: The loss of income from royalties is due to exchange rates as much as anything else.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Yes. There is no doubt about that; I must be fair. Korea, Thailand and Malaysia are experiencing a range of problems, including a problem with their credit position and ability to borrow. Continental Europe is also expecting a slow-down in growth. The economy of the world is very much dependent on what happens in the United States. I do not want to be a doomsayer, but to suggest that we have been fire-proofed from what is happening in Asia is a farcical statement that deserves to be condemned. The growth of our major trading partners between 1997 and 1998 has almost dropped through the floor on a collective and average basis. That suggests to me that the Government has squibbed on making the hard decisions. The Government told us that it knew what had to be done with regard to public sector reform and restructuring, it knew how to do it, and it would manage it better, yet costs are still blowing out in the public sector for consultancy, wages and bracket creep - the lot. Members opposite said they would do it better than us. Let me put it to the hard test. Have our health, education, prison and legal aid systems improved?

Hon B.K. Donaldson: You people brought in Medicare.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: If Hon Bruce Donaldson wants to take it out, he should stand up and say so, and I will tell him what will happen to him! The reality is that none of those systems has improved, yet the Government has raised taxation across-the-board in six years by 50 per cent while we have 9 per cent inflation. Even when we add in population increases, that means that the Government has increased taxation by 36 per cent above all of those factors - inflation and population - but it has not put its own house in order, and it then makes the stupid comment that we are protected and insulated from the Asian economic crisis, when that is not right and is contrary to every indicator. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry will tell the Government how stupid that comment is. It is a good political line, but it is a nonsense. The Government should

not trot out cheap political rhetoric. It should get on with the real job, which is to get its own house, the thing for which it is primarily responsible - the public sector - into order. The Government has had six years. It will not do it this year. I hope that on Thursday it will start the process, but I bet it will not. I bet it will just tinker at the edges. It will still have 43 government departments and over 100 statutory authorities, and it will still waste money hand over fist. It will still spend an average of \$24m per year on consultants, it will still contract out, and it will still have as many FTEs in the public sector in one year as it has today. In spite of all the Government's pronouncements about how good it is, the facts are now out there. The Government is long on rhetoric and short on delivery.

I am glad that the Ministers for Transport and Finance are here, because I now turn specifically to the Bill, and with your condolence, Mr Deputy President - sorry, indulgence -

Hon B.K. Donaldson interjected.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: Condolence about the State's economy! The Government has just had a great run, but it has done little to deliver a social dividend to the people of this State. The Government should be ashamed. The Government is talking about delivering a social dividend now! That is a joke! What will it do? Will it fix up a health system that it has under-funded for six years? Get real!

I draw the attention of members to the item in the Bill referring to the Western Australian Coastal Shipping Commission. When I saw a \$1m Treasurer's Advance for 1996-97 I was concerned. I understood that the commission had been wound up that year but it accrued a debt of \$1m. Then I referred to the notes supplied with the second reading speech, which pointed out that the overrun was due to the payment of out-of-court settlement costs by the commission. The more I have thought about this the more serious it has appeared. I understand the Government's inalienable right to bring down budgets, but why did it pay \$1m for an overrun in an out-of-court settlement? Perhaps the minister can give me some general information.

Hon Max Evans: I have the same notes.

Hon JOHN HALDEN: It is strange that an organisation that has been wound up suddenly has an out-of-court settlement of \$1m. Who was the recipient of \$1m of taxpayers' money? I do not know whether the Minister for Transport or the Minister for Finance can advise me on that matter, but I am sure we would all like to know. The Government can raise revenue by 1 per cent to 117 per cent or 118 per cent; it does not matter. But this Government has another problem.

Point of Order

Hon JOHN HALDEN: I know this is a bit odd, but I raise a point of order. Does the Government believe that the payment of such a liability should be made out of recurrent expenditure? I do not think it should. How can this be part of the annual services of government in Appropriation (Consolidated Fund) Bill (No 3) when it is a one-off payment? I vaguely recall the President's ruling about these matters in 1997. I am sure he will characterise this for me more accurately, but I recall his saying that if it is recurrent expenditure, it is recurrent by virtue of the fact that it has been recurrent previously. How can a one-off expenditure - that is, an unfunded legal liability - be recurrent expenditure? By definition, if it is an unfunded legal liability, it cannot be recurrent.

My point of order clearly must be that, based on the explanation accompanying the second reading speech, this payment, whatever it is, would appear to contravene the President's ruling and what should be in Appropriation (Consolidated Fund) Bill (No 3). I am not sure whether the Deputy President or the President will make a ruling, but it appears that it is an unfunded liability and cannot possibly meet the definition of "recurrent" by virtue of that.

During the dinner break I researched unfunded legal liabilities or unfunded liabilities. I referred to the Ministry of Justice and looked superficially at the issue of Crown Law. I found that it is very difficult to have unfunded legal liabilities or unfunded liabilities in the budget, because one does not know they will arise. The most appropriate place for this expenditure is not here but in another Bill. I do not believe the President's ruling in 1997 or thereabouts would suggest that this is not something that would be normally under the line item of the Western Australian Coastal Shipping Commission, but in terms of other government departments I do not see how it can be in the area of recurrent funding; clearly it is not recurrent funding. It is difficult to understand how the admission of a liability resulting in a Treasurer's Advance can be included in the Appropriation (Consolidated Fund) Bill (No 3) rather than Appropriation (Consolidated Fund) Bill (No 4). I do not know whether you, Mr Deputy President, want to rule on this now or whether I should continue my comments. However, I want to know clearly, and the House has a right to know before it passes this Bill, what this out-of-court settlement is for and whether it is in the correct Bill. I do not know whether to sit and lose my chance to speak.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Hon J.A. Cowdell): Hon John Halden has the call but he has formally raised a point of order. This matter has been the subject of a previous President's ruling. This is clearly a matter that will need to be considered. I give the member the assurance that it will be considered and ruled upon before any vote is taken on this Bill. Having given that assurance, it is in order for the member to continue his speech.

Debate Resumed

Hon JOHN HALDEN: The more I think about this issue the more I believe that I could advance a more coherent argument than I have, but I will leave it now. If the President or the Deputy President will consider this matter, we can take further and better submissions about it.

Hon Max Evans: Where does this appear?

Hon JOHN HALDEN: It is in the clause notes at page 11 and it is in the Bill.

I will not labour the point, but Thursday is an opportunity for this Government to take a new direction and to implement initiatives in its in-house and clearly most manageable area of the economy. It could stamp itself as an economic manager in every sense and not just as a Government that rides on the back of the good times. For the first time in six years it has the opportunity to pick up the cudgels and reform the 43 departments and 100-plus statutory authorities. It is fair to say that this Government has made efforts in some of the large statutory authorities.

From what I understand, some of the contracting out has had questionable economic benefits. If we can ever obtain the real numbers and facts, we would have a better idea of what is taking place. An assessment could be made. We are not in that position. We can clearly establish through the Government's figures, ABS figures and figures from people who make a living forecasting our economy that the Government will not enjoy the same sort of growth and revenue it has experienced in recent times. Members say that a tight budget will be produced, but it had better be tight and real and not be tinkering at the edges. If it is not tight, the Government will face significant problems in one year. Members opposite have had an enormous number of opportunities to fix the problems, but they have not done so. This will be on their heads. More importantly, the Government has lived off the taxpayers of the State for six years. Members should look at their backyards and put their houses in order. Maybe then they will not need to slug people so hard.

HON CHERYL DAVENPORT (South Metropolitan) [8.51 pm]: I refer in some detail to the issue outlined on page 9 of yesterday's *The West Australian* in an article headed "New fee to hit home care". Another article in this morning's newspaper went into further detail. I raise this home and community care funding issue again in this place, as I have done on a number of occasions in the past 12 months; however, this has been to no avail as the Government has not received the message. These fees for service will impact badly on seniors and young people with disabilities who rely on home and community care services to remain at home and to have a reasonable quality of life within their homes.

First, I correct the public record. Page 26 of today's *The West Australian* contained a comment relating to me which gives the impression that I might own a home and community care service. I place the paragraph on the record.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: You do, and your son enjoys it!

Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT: He is not home to enjoy it anymore! The article read -

Ms Davenport, who also runs a home and community care service, said she believed agencies could refuse to ask patients for fees.

Many people in this Parliament know that for the past 10 years I have chaired a subcommittee of a senior citizens' centre which administers a home and community care program. I receive no payment for that role. This has been in a voluntary capacity over the past decade, which I intend to continue. The Clerk asked me today whether I should correct my pecuniary interests return, and I assured him that I should not. I said that I would place that correction on the public record. I have done so.

Working voluntarily in this field over the last decade, I have come to know it pretty well. This fee-for-service policy will hit hard a range of people. In fact, I discovered that the introduction of compulsory fees for service in home and community care was imminent during the Health estimates hearings in this Chamber last year. The Health Department intimated that that was the path it was about to traverse. It is almost 12 months since that estimates hearing as we are about to embark on another budget round. Some activity has occurred, but not a lot, over that 12 months. The Health Department in its wisdom has sought to distance the Government from the fact the fees will be introduced. In fact, it has employed a public relation consultant, who was paid the best part of \$50 000, to help develop a comprehensive communications strategy to sell this policy. I was able to discover this fact through a question I asked of the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Health on 17 March this year. It was illuminating. It seems that the Government is attempting to shift the odium for the introduction of the fee policy to the service providers. That is not good. Service providers are the first port of call for people in need of these services.

I pose another question: Why is Western Australia proceeding down this path, which has been imposed by the Commonwealth, when New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland have yet to embrace it? This policy has been talked about in this industry for the past three or four years, but the States are not falling over themselves to embrace the concept that the increased funding required to keep people in their homes should be provided through a fee-for-service policy. Most State Governments are not comfortable with this policy. Victoria is the exception. As with many things over the past six or seven years, Victoria has embraced the notion of user pays with gusto.

I was in Brisbane in the week before Easter to attend an international conference on home and community care and residential care. Interestingly, many rumours were rife at the conference attended by service providers and bureaucrats from the States and Commonwealth. Although the responsible minister, Hon Bronwyn Bishop, urged the States to embrace the user-pays policy, an interesting rumour suggested that the policy was on trial for three or four years. If the States had not embraced that policy in sufficient numbers in that time, it would be dropped. The crunch time for that decision was said to be at the end of 1999. It puzzles me why the Western Australian Health Department is adopting this policy when great potential exists for the policy to be dropped at a national level.

The introduction of this policy has not been thought through. It will possibly be as disastrous as the ill-fated nursing home fees policy. I ask members to recall how that decision hastened the demise of the then responsible federal minister, Warwick Smith, who presided over the latter part of the debacle, following the sacking of Judi Moylan from the portfolio. I am sure that that occurred because the Government took its advice more from for-profit providers of services than from people in the not-for-profit sector.

With respect to the notion of service providers being involved in the delivery of this policy, it is not as though they have not

charged fees over the years. They charge a minimal fee and have done for a number of years. To cite the example of my own service, the Harold Hawthorne Senior Citizens Centre, it does charge for services within the home. There is a two-tiered service fee, the first being \$10 for up to two hours of service a month, and for anything above that the charge is \$25 a month for as much service as the provider deems the person needs and the provider is able to deliver. That fee has been in place for about four or five years, and it is a very modest fee for service. The client base the service is delivered to is predominantly pensioners. However, a graduated fee scale will be introduced from 1 July and could be as much as \$20 a week - not a month - for full pensioners. That is the cap. The cap is \$30 a week for a part pensioner or somebody on an income equivalent to a part pensioner and \$50 a week for self-funded retirees if they have an income up to \$75 000 per annum.

I say to the minister in particular that it is vastly different to be charging \$20 a week when compared with the \$25 a month that same service providers are presently charging, and that could accrue to potentially \$80 a month. There is a waiver provision within that process and people will not necessarily have to pay all of that amount. However, on 1 July there is potential for unscrupulous service providers to move from a modest fee for service to a steep fee increase. As service providers, many agencies have not told the people in their client base that they will be faced with a compulsory fee, with the potential for it to increase, because we are still not clear on what the department and the implementation committee have decided. It is now less than two months until the crunch date for the phasing in of these new fees. A range of matters still need to be considered and some decent implementation provisions put in place.

The other fear is that if seniors who are frail do not believe they can pay for a service, they will not accept it. We are talking about a group of people who have survived the Depression years and who are fiercely proud. If they think they cannot pay, even though there is a waiver provision, they will not accept the service. I do not think that matter has been thought through. There is a human side to this. It is all very well for the Commonwealth to impose conditions on the State whereby it must raise extra dollars, which it wants to do through a fee for service. However, ways to buffer the impact on the consumers in the community with whom we are dealing have not been thought through sufficiently.

There are other complications. One of those is that not all service providers provide every type of service. Many services are provided to keep people reasonably comfortable with the quality of life in their own homes. Not all service providers are able to provide home help, care aiding, basic nursing, home maintenance, gardening and transport. If they do not provide these services and a range of other service providers from a number of different agencies provide them, the cap is still \$20 a week. It is unclear who will collect that fee and how will it be distributed to the other service providers within the community? That has not been sufficiently thought through.

Hon Max Evans: Of whom have you been asking the question directly?

Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT: I have been asking the Minister for Health, through the Minister for Finance. I have also pointed out these problems through the home and community care network.

Hon Max Evans: I was wondering at what level of the Health Department?

Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT: It is called a safeguards policy. That is fine in theory. However, the Government is setting up an ability to create a problem that nobody could foresee. I do not have a problem with the membership of the implementation committee. I criticise the fact that few consumers are involved in it. Aged Care Western Australia is a peak organisation for aged care. However, its affiliates are mainly people who provide institutional care. Not many agencies which provide community care are part of its membership. Another organisation is Silver Chain Nursing Association, which provides a tremendous service in the community. However, its bureaucratic heads are part of this implementation committee. There is also the Health Consumers' Council WA, which is obviously a consumer organisation. However, its consumers are not necessarily from the group of people who are receiving these services. There are also state and commonwealth government representatives. This committee is top heavy with service providers and short on consumer experience.

As I said earlier, the consumers have not been consulted, or if they have, it has been on a limited basis. All they know at the moment is what they have read in the newspapers. For frail and aged people particularly, the proposal is difficult to understand. I suppose most members are wondering what I am talking about, because this is a complex issue and most people in the community do not understand the implications of it.

The other part of the process of implementation of this fee for service is that each person who consumes a service must self-assess whether or not he or she can pay. Members should think about the consequences of asking somebody with mild dementia or Alzheimer's disease to self-assess. Obviously, the service provider must be part of that process of assessment. The effects that this will have on the service provider have not been adequately considered. There will be a much greater administrative impact on the service than is currently the situation. In addition to that, there will be a graduated fee scale for the service with which people will be provided. With the two-tiered system that I cited previously, it is simple. For up to two hours, a person pays \$10 a month; for more than two hours, a person pays \$25 a month. The graduated fee scale for home help will be one amount; when people have a carer coming in to help them shower, take them shopping or do their banking, it will be another amount. Transport will be another amount, and so on. Therefore, these additional administration costs will be placed on the service provider. In the context of the money that the Government thinks it will raise, I am not sure that the value is evident in the policy that will be implemented.

Training modules from the implementation committee will commence in the next couple of weeks. There are 350 providers of community-based home care services in this State, and in the next six weeks we are supposed to teach them all exactly what they must do. That is pretty unrealistic. As I said, the policy will certainly raise money in some geographic areas. However, will it be raised equitably? I do not think it will. It will cost service providers in extra service administration and

delivery. I am told a married couple who both receive services will pay the same as a single person. Where is the equity in that? It is a significant inequity in the fee scale. Another thing which disturbs me is that this will frighten frail and ill people. They will refuse the services which are keeping them in the community because they cannot pay. One must take that to the next extension - it will shift the care from the community where it currently resides. It will shift that burden of care into the acute care system. People will hang on until they are quite ill and will finish up in the hospital system or have to enter hostel and nursing home care earlier than otherwise. This is called a safeguards policy, but I am worried that the impost of this system will burden frail and old people. I urge the minister to talk to his colleague, the Minister for Health.

Hon Max Evans: I will try to have some answers tomorrow.

Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT: I can imagine the answers I will receive. However, I want the minister to understand the human cost of all this. It is not as simple as imposing a cap of \$20 or \$30 for a part-pensioner; it is a difficult and emotional matter for many old and young people with disabilities in the community.

I mentioned earlier my attendance at an international conference in Brisbane where I was hoping that some new ideas and initiatives would come out of it. The aged population will grow substantially over the next 15 years and the best way to care for people is to ensure they can stay in their own homes. It was disheartening to learn two pieces of information. Many people talked about the initiatives within their own services and there were some good ideas in that context but I was floored to find out that after 14 years of home and community care legislation we still do not have a profile of the consumer we are serving across Australia. I know we collect a mammoth amount of statistics every month about where the service goes and how it is delivered. However, we do not have a mechanism to tell us about the profile of the customer we service.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: Why would we want to know that?

Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT: So we can look at a service and determine whether it is adequate for the base of consumers we are dealing with. That makes a lot of sense. Effectively this is to assist younger people with disabilities and frail seniors. I have said before that a person, particularly someone in the frail age area, will come into the program needing minor assistance but the need changes and we never pick up in a profile sense the progression of that person and how much of the service is being delivered from beginning to end because those statistics are not sought. It is only about the hours and the numbers to which we deliver the service. That was a shock to me. I would have thought that to be able to project budget estimates we should know the profile and the complexity of the service we need to deliver.

Mary Suther addressed the conference. She is the president and chief executive officer of the Visiting Nurse Association of Texas and also the chair of the United States National Association of Home Care. This organisation is one of the few not-for-profit agencies left in the United States. It has a \$50m budget, 8 000 clients, 1 100 employees, 6 000 volunteers and delivers 5 000 meals a day. It is fee-for-service and has been for many years.

Hon Max Evans: A budget of \$50m for 8 000 clients is a pretty high cost.

Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT: Yes. I thought what she said was fascinating. The sort of clients they are servicing are acute care patients who are now treated through home care programs. I am talking about stroke victims who attend an emergency admissions centre in a hospital and who are sent home within four or five hours with equipment and a nurse to be nursed at home. A range of acute respiratory diseases are dealt with in hospitals here but in the United States a respiratory therapist teaches families to utilise respiratory technology. It is the second fastest growth area in the home care sector in the United States. Home infusions of blood is a growing area as is ventilator treatment for youths, the aged and children. In the United States those services are being brought back into the community. There are some advantages in that. The frail aged often pick up infections in an acute care hospital and provided it is funded appropriately, home care can reduce some of those dangers. This is the way the United States is moving. Its system of acute care treatment in hospitals is the same as ours and it is costing more and more to fund the hospital system. We are not always that far behind in following those initiatives. That is something we can safely say will begin to occur in Australia in the next few years.

I place on the record my thanks because a week ago I had the privilege to be nominated by the Australian Labor Party to lead an Australian Political Exchange Council delegation to Papua New Guinea. It is a program designed to nurture and develop future young political leaders. It was an all-party delegation with a strenuous itinerary. We were in Papua New Guinea for six days. We began the visit in Port Moresby then went to Mt Hagen in the western highlands then on to Wewak, which members may know was one of the major Australian-Japanese war forums during the Second World War. It was a great experience. I was the only politician travelling with younger participants from other States active in the political process. It was an eye-opening and sobering experience for those young people. Port Moresby and Mt Hagen are areas in which safety is quite a thing to behold. We were met at the airport by three police vehicles. Everywhere we went we had escorts and people bringing up the rear to protect us. I was blown away by it. I thought, "This is hardly a delegation of importance in the grand scheme of things." However, they take safety issues very seriously as it is a violent place in which to live. We were basically locked in our hotel and we could go out only if we were in a vehicle. There was no way a person could walk around and participate in normal community life.

We had an opportunity to visit the Parliament of Papua New Guinea. We were accompanied around Papua New Guinea by two officers from the protocol section of the Parliament. They were Roger Mabinga and Basil Kidu. They were tremendous people and we got to know them well during the six days. When people are thrown together like that, they fit a lot of getting-to-know-people into a short period.

Another interesting point in our trip to Papua New Guinea was the fact that the Parliament had not sat since October, and will not sit again until July when, we were told, the Prime Minister will face a no-confidence motion, which he is likely to

lose. There is no doubt that the political system in Papua New Guinea is growing, but it is volatile. It is a country that is over-governed; it has 91 national members of Parliament who represent four million people; it has 24 provincial assemblies; and a range of local government authorities that feed into the provincial process. We had an animated discussion with a group of opposition members of Parliament. It is not like the minimal parties that we have in Australia; it has many parties. In fact, there are only four members in the Prime Minister's party and he has been able to pull together a coalition from many disparate groups. They were interested to know how young people and women were encouraged into the political system in Australia. We had a full and frank discussion.

One disappointment was the fact that, in most places we visited, there was very little participation by women. In some of the country areas they are very much seen as commodities; they are bought as brides. Many men in the highlands and the outlying areas have four or five wives. Although we can laugh about it, when a person visits a country that is so close to Australia, it is very sobering to know that women there have a long way to go before they reach equality.

Another disappointment was to be taken to a hospital in Mt Hagen in the western highlands which was supposedly a showpiece of health services in Papua New Guinea. The younger members of the delegation were horrified at what they saw. We visited the medical ward and many people were suffering from malaria, typhoid and pneumonia. Their family members were the nursing staff. There were many doctors and some equipment, but we do not think about a country like that having such a low level of equipment and service, and in which life seems very cheap. We saw babies in humidicribs who were quite distressed. When I asked whether they would be transferred to Port Moresby, I was told, "No, they will probably die." That is all they have in the context of providing support. Another sad matter is that in the sexually transmitted diseases clinic at least three cases of heterosexually-transmitted HIV are identified weekly. Those people probably have a life expectancy of between 12 months and two years.

It was tremendous to see the AusAID projects and the use made of the money that Australia provides. Most of that money is now linked to specific aid projects to make sure the service is delivered appropriately. In 2000 when the budgetary amount that we have provided since independence stops. It will then all go through aid programs. Australia still provides \$350m per annum to Papua New Guinea. Most of that provides health services and builds road infrastructure, and the Minister for Transport would be interested in that. It costs about 300 000 kina to upgrade a gravel road, and many of the roads are gravel. That is done on a three-monthly basis because of the wet weather. The information that we were asked to pass on to AusAID was that if we provided \$600 000, the road could be sealed and they would get about four or five years' life out of it, rather than just three months. Some economies of scale could be looked at in that context.

Another issue that came up was the Bougainville peace process, which is continuing. While we were there, the Prime Minister and other senior members of the Government and the Opposition were in New Zealand, which is hosting the peace talks. There was hope that some outcomes would be reached that could be utilised and that Bougainville would eventually become a productive island again.

All in all, it was a great opportunity and, as a trip, it was a great leveller in making us, some very lucky Australians, appreciate our country. I felt privileged to be able to lead this trip and meet with those people. They are fine people. The real problem I see for Papua New Guinea is that it has not yet worked through having a national identity. It consists of groups of people.

Hon Max Evans: Tribal.

Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT: Absolutely. The fact that it has 750 languages is mind blowing. Most of them speak six or seven languages. It is certainly not an unintelligent nation. It has the problem of trying to come together to build a national focus. Given that it has had independence for only 25 years, and the fact that the first white person went to Mt Hagen only in the 1950s, it has come a long way. However, it still has a long way to go in our terms of development. I support the Bill.

HON LJILJANNA RAVLICH (East Metropolitan) [9.30 pm]: I, too, support the Bill and I am pleased to have the opportunity to bring to the attention of the House a matter of concern to me and to many people in the vocational training arena. In particular I draw to attention a matter relating to group training schemes and to the Master Builders Association group training scheme and preferential lease arrangements which have been put into place for the Master Builders Association Group Training Scheme Trust. I raise this matter because it is an excellent example of the Government's being hoodwinked, not making precautionary checks in respect of lease arrangements, giving preferential treatment to employer associations, mismanaging the process and, rather than giving preferential treatment in lease arrangements to the Master Builders Association Group Training Scheme Trust, inadvertently providing preferential lease arrangements to a private company with two shareholders.

Before I go into the detail, I will comment on group training schemes and their value generally for young people and for industry. For members who are not familiar with group training schemes, they have the important role of indenturing apprentices and trainees to the group training scheme itself rather than to individual employers. There are many recognised advantages of that, particularly in industries which are subject to high fluctuations in their levels of activity. The building and construction industry is a prime case. Some employers would be fairly reticent to take on apprentices for three or four years, depending on the length of the apprenticeship. Rather than bear some of the risk when the level of economic activity in the industry may be low and then put off apprentices, the group training scheme bears all the risks so that apprentices and trainees are leased out to employers on a needs basis rather than for a full four-year term or a one-year term in respect of a trainee. The value of group training schemes is widely recognised.

Group training schemes were set up specifically to be not-for-profit organisations. Clearly revenues are generated through

the group training scheme system in the form of grants and subsidies which are paid to apprentices or to the group training schemes which take on apprentices. Group training schemes make a profit but they plough it back into better training facilities for apprentices and trainees.

Another feature of group training schemes is that they are supposed to have bipartite or tripartite industry boards of management. They were not intended to be private companies set up by individuals to operate as private companies. However, in the case of Radock Pty Ltd, trading as the Master Builders Association Group Training Scheme Trust, that is exactly what has happened. The shares were transferred from the Master Builders Association to Harvey McLeod and Les Slade, who was the previous training manager, and they became shareholders of Radock Pty Ltd in 1985. That has caused some concern in recent times because most people - in fact just about all people, apart from the very few who knew what was going on - were of the view that Radock Pty Ltd, trading as Master Builders Association Group Training Scheme Trust, was in fact a legitimate arm of the Master Builders Association. Therefore, the people who dealt with Radock or the Master Builders Association Group Training Scheme Trust were of the view that that was with whom they were dealing. Certainly from the information that I have received through a freedom of information application, that would be the case.

Earlier this year the Master Builders Association sent a letter to all stakeholders in group training. The letter went far and wide. The purpose of the letter, which was signed off by Michael McLean, who was the director of the Master Builders Association, was to advise all and sundry that the Master Builders Association really did not want anything to do with Radock Pty Ltd or the Master Builders Association Group Training Scheme Trust and that the organisations were discrete. The correspondence I have is addressed to Geoff Gale, who is director of the South East Metropolitan College of TAFE. All information in regard to the issue has been obtained through freedom of information and it has been forwarded to me in that regard. A letter dated 23 February 1999, which is headed "Cessation of Association between MBA and Radock/MBAGTS", states -

The purpose of this correspondence is to advise you that the Master Builders' Association . . . has terminated all relationships with Radock Pty Ltd . . . trading as the MBA Group Training Scheme Trust . . .

The MBA commenced its group apprenticeship scheme in 1980 and since its restructure in 1992, the scheme has been operated by Radock. At the time of the restructure, the two shares of Radock were transferred to Harvey McLeod (then director of MBA), and Eric Bevan (the previous manager of the Group Scheme). The shares are still held by these two individuals.

That is very important. The letter goes on to state -

Until recently the MBA has, in its view, rightly considered the Group Scheme to be a part of the MBA and has promoted it as such. The existing shareholders have made it clear that this is not now their view, and are prepared, if necessary, to operate the scheme independently of the MBA.

The MBA Council of Management has thus reluctantly decided that MBA should terminate any further association with Radock/MBAGTS from the date of this notification. MBA also wishes to advise that neither Harvey McLeod nor Eric Bevan have any current affiliation or connection with MBA and are not authorised to act or speak on the MBA's behalf in any way. MBA will not be responsible for any activities of Radock/MBAGTS or any consequences of such activities.

That is pretty serious distancing. It continues -

The MBA intends to terminate the "licence at will" that Radock has in respect of any reference to MBA in the description of the Group Scheme. In addition you are advised that Radock/MBAGTS is not now the preferred or promoted scheme of the MBA.

Whilst the MBA initiated the proposal to acquire the former PWD/BMA workshop facility in Welshpool as an industry training centre, please be advised that the MBA is no longer associated with the current action of Radock/MBAGTS to obtain the centre.

Any dealings, arrangements, or contracts entered into between yourself and Radock/MBAGTS do not have the support nor the approval or involvement of the MBA in any way.

I bring this to the House's attention because the issue I really want to focus on is the leasing arrangements which have been put into place by the Government with Radock for the former Public Works Department/BMA workshop facility in Welshpool and the use of that facility as its training centre. I received a copy of this correspondence from another source. When I received this copy, I knew that the correspondence had gone far and wide and I was aware of the issue. In response I put a freedom of information application into place because I thought that it was a very odd situation indeed. It seemed to me that this is not the sort of usual action that the Master Builders Association would take and also that the Master Builders Association would take such action only in the event that something was very wrong. It was a case of trying to investigate exactly what the issue was all about.

On 4 March I put the freedom of information application into the Western Australian Department of Training, requesting access to all correspondence between the WA Department of Training, Balga and Thornlie TAFE, at which many of these Radock or Master Builders Association training scheme students are enrolled, and the Department of Land Administration, which was the agency responsible for putting into place the lease. Originally the responsibility was that of the Department of Contract and Management Services. As the issue progressed, for some reason the responsibility was transferred from CAMS to DOLA. I also sought information from the Minister for Employment and Training, the Master Builders Association, the State Training Board, the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet and the Premier's Office regarding the

establishment and ongoing operational arrangements of Radock Proprietary Limited, trading as the Master Builders Group Training Scheme Trust and any such arrangements since 1992. I do quite a bit of FOI work and sometimes it does not get very far.

Hon M.J. Criddle: It costs us a lot of money.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: It does, but I always think that money spent on good research is well spent. I was very surprised when I received information from a number of sources in regard to the lease of the former BMA site in Welshpool. The annual rent for the site had not been fixed but a valuation had indicated an annual rental value of \$137 500 based on the highest and best use. However, in response to a question which I put to the Minister for Employment and Training, it became quite apparent that the sum of \$137 500 had not been paid for the annual lease of this facility but rather a sum of only \$70 000. I understand the intent is that Radock or the Master Builders Group Training Scheme Trust will have signed up for a lease which runs into three years and that there is potential for it to buy out the property eventually or alternatively continue to lease it for a period of nine years. It begs the question why that premises with a lease valuation of \$137 500 per year was leased for a sum of only \$70 000 to a company which essentially has two shareholders, which means it is questionable whether it meets the criteria of providing a proper group training scheme. Much debate has occurred between training providers in regard to what has happened. Indeed, many group training schemes other than the Master Builders Group Training Scheme Trust, want to know - and rightly so - why preferential treatment has been given to this organisation when it is not provided to other group training schemes. That is the first question: Why has this organisation been given a lease arrangement for \$70 000 when the Valuer General had valued the lease of that property at \$137 500 per year?

The next issue is that a considerable amount of equipment that is still on those premises. The Government has taken a fairly strange approach of giving Radock the opportunity to purchase that equipment outright. I want to refer to correspondence to Eric Bevan, who is one of the two shareholders of the Radock Group training scheme. It is from Brian Janes of the Department of Contract and Management Services and is dated 18 November 1998. It states -

Eric,

I'm following up on our meeting on Nov. 3, to find out if you have reviewed the list I provided of additional items of equipment/tools/furniture available for purchase from CAMS that were not on your previous list.

There is another extensive list of equipment on which Radock Proprietary Limited has been able basically to tick off what it wants. It continues -

Are you in a position to identify from the list the additional items you wish to purchase from CAMS?

Keeping in mind your plan to have the training facility operational by Feb. 1999, if there are surplus items of equipment etc. that CAMS needs to auction, we will need some time to arrange this so that your plans are not delayed. You may of course consider it worthwhile to purchase all items listed.

Mr President, I do not know about you but I am starting to smell a rat. This is not the way that equipment funded through taxpayers' money should be disposed of. For a start, the Government has sold out WA taxpayers, to the tune of \$70 000 in the first instance, by giving a reduced rate to the valuation made by the Valuer General. However, now we have an extensive schedule of very expensive equipment not put out to tender or auction, breaching all purchasing agreements that the Government has supposedly implemented in order to dispose of surplus equipment. Many people must be asking themselves: Is this how government purchasing is done? Why have the Government's purchasing guidelines been flouted in such a manner? Why has not the best price been sought on behalf of the WA taxpayers? Clearly, the only reason I can conclude for the best price not being sought is that the Government is giving this organisation preferential treatment.

The strange thing is that as the story evolves it appears that the Government has been giving preferential treatment to the wrong people. The Government thought it was giving preferential treatment to the Master Builders Association. However, as it turns out, it was not; it was giving preferential treatment to Radock Pty Ltd, a company owned by two shareholders from which the Master Builders Association has gone to great lengths to distance itself. That must be a major embarrassment for this Government. How can it badly muck up something so simple? It is bad enough that the Government was giving preferential treatment to an organisation purely and simply because it is an employer organisation; however, in doing so it flouted just about every purchasing guideline it ever put in place. That is an appalling state of affairs, Mr President. This Government should come clean on what is behind this debacle.

On a number of occasions during question time I have asked direct questions on the Master Builders Association Group Training Scheme Trust and related issues on matters linked to lease arrangements. On all of those occasions I have been advised to put the question on notice because there are insufficient resources to answer the question. Given what is evolving in this case, it has nothing to do with a lack of resources but much to do with the fact that it is an embarrassment to the Government because it has got it very wrong. The Government should account to this Parliament and to Western Australian taxpayers why it has been a party to this outcome. I will certainly be pursuing that matter on behalf not only of the other group training schemes, which do not seem to be able to get this preferential treatment by the Government, but also of Western Australian taxpayers because this Government has shown a total disregard for the use of their money.

The story goes on. On 27 July 1998 the executive director of the Department of Contract and Management Services wrote to the manager of the sales section of the Department of Land Administration regarding the disposal of the Department of Conservation and Land Management's depot site at 207 Star Street, Welshpool. The letter in part reads -

The creation of the Department of Contract and Management Services (CAMS) coincided with the contracting out to the private sector of the buildings and property services previously undertaken by the Building Management

Authority. As a result of this reform program the former works depot at Star Street Welshpool is no longer required by CAMS.

The Master Builders Association of WA has a strong interest in acquiring part of the site for industry training purposes and although CAMS is supportive of this activity it is more appropriate that DOLA determine the method of disposal and manage this process.

This letter is significant because at 27 July 1998 the agencies concerned in the leasing of the premises were still under the assumption that they were dealing with the Master Builders Association. Right throughout this whole case it has become apparent that the Government was firmly of the view that that was in fact with whom they were dealing. However, I suspect that Mr Harvey McLeod, a director of Radock Pty Ltd, who is known to most members on both sides of this House, has some friends in high places. I suspect also that he is very well known to the minister.

In a document that I have before me dated 7 August 1998 there is a handwritten note to the minister saying that Harvey is very happy now that the matter is progressing. That would indicate that the minister is familiar with who Mr Harvey McLeod is and probably has a close association with him. Harvey McLeod, as at August 1998, wrote on behalf of the Master Builders Association concerning the subdivision and purchase of a portion of the former Building Management Authority workshop site at Welshpool. Therefore, Mr McLeod, a shareholder of an independent company which is not linked to the Master Builders Association, wrote on behalf of the Master Builders Association purporting to be a representative of that organisation.

What really strikes me as odd is that no member on the opposite side of the House bothered to check it out, nobody in DOLA bothered to check it out and nobody in CAMS bothered to check it out. This is a Government that carries on about having to put the right contractual arrangements in place, about risk management, about assessments, and about risk management monitoring. This is a Government which drones on and on about due diligence and cost benefit. It goes on and on about a simple matter like this.

Several members interjected.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: I thought members would wake up! On a simple matter like this they could not even be bothered working out who owned the company. What an absolute joke. This is only one example; however, I am sure there are hundreds of examples along this line. Unfortunately, Hon Murray Criddle was right, in that questions dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act are very expensive exercises. I am sure that if more freedom of information work were done, many more cases of this type of mismanagement would emerge and could be brought to the attention of this place. I guess I am pretty disappointed that having asked a series of questions specifically about this issue on a number of occasions, I am always being told that I could not get answers to them, thereby having to revert to the FOI process.

Debate adjourned, pursuant to standing orders.

STATE TRADING CONCERNS AMENDMENT BILL

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by Hon Max Evans (Minister for Finance), read a first time.

Second Reading

HON MAX EVANS (North Metropolitan - Minister for Finance) [10.01 pm]: I move -

That the Bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the State Trading Concerns Act. The Government supports the underlying philosophy of the State Trading Concerns Act which prohibits Governments from entering into any business beyond the usual functions of State Government unless expressly authorised by Parliament; therefore, the Bill as drafted will retain this important feature.

The Act was last amended in July 1997 by the State Trading Concerns Amendment Act, No 18 of 1997. The Act was amended on that occasion to enable some departments and public authorities which are part of a department to obtain authorisation from the Treasurer by way of regulation to engage in certain commercial activities involving the provision of goods, information or intellectual property; scientific, technical, educational, training management or advisory services; and advertising opportunities which would include sponsorships.

A reason behind the 1997 amendments was to facilitate the implementation of two policies released by the Government in 1997; namely, the public sector intellectual property management policy and the exporting Western Australian public sector skills and expertise policy and guidelines. These two policies contain important initiatives to encourage departments and other public authorities to identify new sources of revenue through commercialisation of valuable intellectual property assets which financial management reforms such as net appropriations for departments were intended to encourage.

The 1997 amendments to the Act did not extend to statutory authorities or statutory positions which operate under the framework of a department, as it was considered at that time that the powers of such statutory authorities or statutory positions should be spelt out in their enabling legislation.

Experience has since shown that the majority of statutory authorities' legislation does not empower them to engage in the activities contemplated in the 1997 amendments. It has also become apparent that, although substantial revenues can be obtained by a department or statutory authority from the activities contemplated by the two policies, in many cases such

revenues will not be sufficiently large to justify the time and cost involved in seeking amendments to a department's or statutory authority's legislation. Accordingly, many public authorities have not been able to reap the benefits available, both to the public authority and the State as a whole, of the implementation of the two policies.

Clause 6 of the Bill will enable the Treasurer to extend by regulation the statutory powers of statutory authorities and departments whose minister or chief executive officer is constituted as a body corporate, to carry on the same activities as those which were extended to departments by the 1997 amendments.

This will enable agencies to commercialise their intellectual property, export their expertise and engage in advertising and sponsorship opportunities while still preserving the general constraint on government entering into business activities. Advertising and sponsorship opportunities were included in the Bill for the purposes of consistency with the 1997 amendments.

The requirement for activities to be prescribed provides additional safeguards. Firstly, the regulations will be subject to scrutiny and the power of disallowance by the Parliament and, secondly, the regulations will authorise only activities that are consistent with the functions and powers prescribed in the public authorities' enabling legislation.

In addition to enabling statutory authorities to seek authorisation by regulation of the commercial activities of which I speak, the amendments will allow the agencies to charge for the services they provide; therefore, the Bill provides for the minister to set a fee or charge and to delegate that power to the board or chief executive officer of the agency. For administrative convenience, the Bill also allows a fee or charge to be set in accordance with a procedure approved by the minister. This Bill provides an important step forward in advancing the Government's financial management reforms. I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Hon E.R.J. Dermer.

RESTRAINING ORDERS AMENDMENT BILL

Returned

Bill returned from the Assembly without amendment.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

HON M.J. CRIDDLE (Agricultural - Minister for Transport) [10.04 pm]: I move -

That the House do now adjourn.

World War II Nurses - Adjournment Debate

HON B.M. SCOTT (South Metropolitan) [10.05 pm]: I bring a matter of importance to the attention of the Chamber to pay tribute to a very fine woman living within my electorate - Brenda Taylor, a local resident of Bicton who on Sunday was responsible for organising a very moving and wonderful ceremony which marked the murder of a group of nurses in 1942 on Banka Island during World War II. Brenda Taylor is a nurse. She decided that she would organise the planting of 21 flowering gum trees to recognise the 21 nurses who died in the Banka Island tragedy off Singapore. I was invited to represent the Government at that ceremony on Sunday morning. It was a very fitting and moving memorial service to those very brave nurses.

With Anzac Day very fresh in our minds, just a week past, it was an appropriate time for recognition of the heroines of our wartime hospitals. Having been asked some weeks back to represent the minister at this function, I was fortunate to pick up the *The Weekend Australian* on the Anzac Day weekend. I would like recorded in *Hansard* the names of the 100 nurses who have been recognised in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, named in that article in the *The Weekend Australian*. That newspaper devoted a whole magazine to the nurses in the war. One of the pages which I have with me is headed "Hell of Banka". It is about the execution of these nurses, and the sinking of the *Vyner Brooke*, a small yacht onto which some nurses and small children were herded late in the afternoon of 12 February 1942, just before the fall of Singapore. This boat was decked out to carry about 35 passengers and in all 300 passengers were on board. They travelled through one evening, and the next afternoon the boat was shot at by the Japanese, and it sank within 15 minutes. Of the 65 nurses on board, only 21 survived. They were taken prisoners of war along with male soldiers. The next day the nurses were marched into the water; the men were taken off and bayoneted. The women were aware of that. After the women were marched into the water, they were shot and all but one were dead - Nurse Bullwinkel, now Mrs Vivian Statham, MBE, who lives in the St Louis estate in Claremont.

Not only was I privileged to be in attendance at that service on Sunday morning, but she and one of her friends who had travelled from Melbourne to be at the ceremony both spoke with incredible poignancy and depth of courage about their experience. The book *White Coolies* and the film *Paradise Road* which was released a year or so ago are based on this survival story. Last Sunday morning a very talented choir of young women from a college sang the *Captive's Hymn* which had been made up and sung in the prisoner of war camp, and subsequently recorded. Having been shot in the hip, Vivian Bullwinkel was the only survivor of that ghastly shooting. She survived because she rolled over and floated ashore, pretending she was dead. She lived in the bush for 10 or 14 days, and even nursed a young soldier who called out for help in that bush. They gave themselves up and she subsequently spent three and half years as a prisoner of war in Singapore and other camps in the region.

In a fitting service on Sunday morning, 21 flowering gum trees were planted as a memorial to these 21 nurses. My constituent who came to see me - I pay tribute here to Brenda Taylor - decided it would be appropriate to remember the nurses' courage in the year of the Centenary of Women's Suffrage. She decided late last year to approach the City of Melville and Cape Bouvard Investments Pty Ltd, which generously donated the flowering gum trees.

I quote from *The Weekend Australian* to wrap up my comments. Much could be said about the brave nurses, but it is written. The significance of this ceremony should be placed on the record this evening. I share with the House that yesterday afternoon I was privileged to be asked to have these two very special women to lunch in Parliament House. They were overawed by this honour, but I felt it was my honour. You kindly, Mr President, gave time to meet them, and other members in the dining room were also able to meet them. I was also pleased that one of our former members, Hon Graham Edwards, was dining here and recognised former Nurse Bullwinkel and Wilma Young and spoke to them. Wilma Young had flown in from Melbourne especially for the service with her daughter-in-law.

The Weekend Australian articulated this matter in succinct terms in an article headed "Heroines of our wartime hospitals" which read -

The long history of wartime service and sacrifice by Australia's military nurses deserves wider acknowledgement.

... Often lacking adequate medical supplies, young nurses could be overwhelmed by the sheer number of wounded and the gravity of their injuries. Despite exhaustion and the often present dangers of illness and shelling, these women responded with skill, compassion and courage.

A feature of this week's special report is a list of 99 names of nurses who died during war service, or as a result of it.

Regarding the Canberra memorial, the article continues -

A recurring phrase is "Executed Banka Island", a reference to a 1942 Japanese atrocity in the Pacific: 23 women were ordered to march into the sea and were shot from behind; only one nurse, Vivian Bullwinkel, survived. The concrete detail of the names of the dead is an invitation to reflect upon these women as individuals - to imagine the promise of their youth, their hope, their families and friendships.

I pay tribute this evening to the lone woman, Brenda Taylor, who took it upon herself to organise this ceremony. Probably 1 000 people were present on Sunday, many of whom were men and women who served in the war. "Weary" Dunlop's son was among the group. People flew in from Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales to attend the service, which was very fitting. At such times, one feels as a member of Parliament that one is privileged to be connected to the history of this great nation and its people. I was privileged that my colleague Hon Muriel Patterson joined me in the dining room for this lunch. A meeting had been cancelled, and it was fortunate that we had that time free. I place on record the significance of the organisation of the memorial service to recognise nurses' contribution in war as part of the centenary of women gaining the vote in Western Australia.

The PRESIDENT: As I understand it, earlier in Hon Barbara Scott's speech she sought leave to have something incorporated in *Hansard*. I understand the names of persons is involved.

Hon B.M. SCOTT: They are the names of the 99 women to be placed on the Canberra memorial.

The PRESIDENT: Members are aware that it is not the usual practice to have matters incorporated in *Hansard*. However, it certainly has been done before. Under the circumstances, Hon Barbara Scott could read each of those names into the record. If it suits the convenience of the House, I ask whether leave is granted to have those names incorporated.

Leave granted.

[The material in appendix A was incorporated by leave of the House.]

[See page 7697.]

Regional Forest Agreement - Adjournment Debate

HON NORM KELLY (East Metropolitan) [10.17 pm]: Due to the shortness of the urgency motion debate today, I make a few further comments regarding the Regional Forest Agreement which I understand was signed last Saturday by Senator Hill. As non-government members were not privy to any briefings on the matter - none was made available - it is with some difficulty that we must peruse a document after the fact. It is getting late, and some members are getting grumpy. However, I refer to some of the positive factors in the document, which include the provision for informal reserves in the forest reserve system. It is encouraging to see that the informal reserves to be incorporated only include stream reserves with a width of 150 metres or greater. A concern was expressed that the lower grade stream reserves, such as those of 30-metre width, would be incorporated in the figures for total reservations under the RFA. That is one positive.

Hon Barry House: Is that a hint of praise? I do not believe it!

Hon NORM KELLY: Many good things are contained in the RFA document. The Australian Democrats do not dispute that. Although it is not strictly part of the RFA as I understand it, the proposal and assurance from the Government to restructure the Department of Conservation and Land Management is a positive move. The Democrats are gratified to see that the Government has seen fit to incorporate some Democrats' policies from the last state election. I am sure that that was one of the motivating forces for that change!

Hon B.M. Scott: Are you saying it is quite a positive move or a very positive move?

Hon NORM KELLY: It is very positive to incorporate Democrats' policies!

Many benefits can be found in the document. Unfortunately, as a result of the executive-type summaries in the notes provided to the media and members today, mistakes can be found. The first bullet point reads -

An increase in formal conservation reserves of 150,885 hectares. This means that the total area protected in formal reserves in the south west forest region has increased by 12 per cent to 1,047,200 hectares.

In fact, the total area protected by formal reserves is less than 900 000 hectares. The Government has made a mistake of overstating by approximately 150 000 hectares the amount of area contained in formal reserves. The Government appears to have incorporated the informal reserves in which it is far more difficult to maintain biodiversity values to arrive at those figures. The advertisement looks pretty and it is nice to be able to say that over one million hectares are formally reserved, but that is not factual. If the Government intends to use the same advertising agency that supplied the advertisement of 9 March, which I mentioned in a previous speech, one could say that this mistake is equivalent to 30 000 Subiaco Ovals. That is the scientific approach that this Government uses when publicising these facts in the media.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: Do not be daft.

Hon NORM KELLY: I am not the person who drew up the advertisement.

Hon Derrick Tomlinson: It is designed for thickheads like Hon Norm Kelly to read.

Hon NORM KELLY: It would be an encouraging start if the Government could at least get the facts right. However, the thickheads in the Government could not get that right.

Another thing that is not necessarily a mistake, but which is not referred to in the RFA document or the executive summary, is the amount of forest ecosystems which are not forest. When we consider the total figure of over one million hectares of formal and informal reserves, we find that over one-third of that area is not forest. The forest reservation includes nearly 60 000 hectares of coastal heath -

Hon Barry House: Aren't biodiversity values important in those areas?

Hon NORM KELLY: Biodiversity values are important. However, that can be misleading if it is not pointed out that the forest reservations are not necessarily forest ecosystems. They may be part of the forest ecosystem, but often it is the case that they are the border areas to forest systems. Sometimes the reservation may be included within a forest ecosystem. However, it is important to point out - especially the way it is portrayed in advertisements by the Government - that although the Government is protecting 100 000 hectares of pretty forest which it uses in its advertising, the advertisements do not show the sand dunes and rocky outcrops, so the figures can be misleading. There are over 10 000 hectares of sand dunes, over 230 000 hectares of shrub land, 6 000 hectares of swamps, 36 000 hectares of minor woodland and 25 000 hectares of "other". That represents almost 400 000 hectares of ecosystem types that are not traditionally called forest systems.

When we consider the areas which are being converted from state forest into protected formal reserves, we find that includes all of those areas which are not viable commercial loggable areas of forest anyway. It is not as though we are protecting a great deal of valid old-growth forest in the karri main belt or jarrah areas.

Hon Barry House: Is it only old-growth forest if it contains nice big tall trees?

Hon NORM KELLY: That is not my definition of old-growth forest. Hon Barry House brings up a good point. There has been much debate on whether the definition of old-growth forest in the RFA is a valid definition. The definition that is being used ignores the fact that areas that have a dieback presence are being excluded under the definition of old-growth forest. Those areas of good jarrah forest with the presence of dieback, in my mind and in the mind of many scientists, substantially retain the values of an old-growth forest. However, for convenience, those areas have been excluded from the total area of old-growth forest. Reducing the total area of old-growth forest makes it easier to reserve a significant portion of the remaining area in conservation reserves. By doing a quick fix to exclude a lot of what should be valid old-growth forest, the Government has been able to get away with reserving a much smaller area of proper old-growth forest in this document.

Hon Simon O'Brien: The flip side to that argument is that you are saying there is more old-growth forest than the Government is including in the total, so it shows there is more around.

Hon NORM KELLY: I am glad Hon Simon O'Brien agrees, because a lot of that old-growth forest that exists is now open for logging because it has not been included in the old-growth reservation areas. The area that we say is old-growth, even though it has a dieback presence, is now open for logging. When the Government says it is logging only a small percentage of old-growth forest, it is actually logging a far bigger area because it is ignoring those areas which are substantially old-growth forest.

The Australian Democrats are disappointed at the reluctance of this Government even to offer a briefing to non-government members. It has been left to us to find details through the media, a few disgruntled government backbenchers, and those sorts of various unreliable sources, to try to get some of the details.

Hon Simon O'Brien: I am glad you say your sources are unreliable. We have suspected this for a long time.

Hon NORM KELLY: One could argue whether I am referring to the former or the latter.

It is unfortunate there was no draft or pre-briefings to highlight these mistakes which have been shown up in the first instance. More mistakes will become evident in these documents as people study them in more detail.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 10.26 pm

APPENDIX A**BOER WAR**

HYNES, Sister Fanny

WORLD WAR I

Army

BICKNELL, Sister Louisa Annie
CLARE, Sister Emily
DICKINSON, Sister Ruby
HENNESSY, Sister May
KNOX, Sister Hilda Mary
MOORHOUSE, Sister Edith Ann
MORETON, Sister Letetia Gladys
MOWBRAY, Sister Norma Violet
MUNRO, Sister Gertrude Evelyn
O'GRADY, Sister Amy Veda
O'KANE, Sister Rosa
PORTER, Sister Katherine Agnes Lawrence
POWER, Sister Kathleen
RIDGWAY, Sister Doris Alice
ROTHERY, Sister Elizabeth
STAFFORD, Sister Mary Florence
THOMPSON, Sister Ada Mildred
TYSON, Sister Fanny Isobel Catherine
WALKER, Matron Jean Miles
WATSON, Sister Beatrice Middleton
WILLIAMS, Sister Blodwyn Elizabeth

WORLD WAR II

Army and WRAAF

ADAMS, Captain Margaret Lamont
ATKINSON, Sister Marguerite May
BALFOUR-OGILVY, Sister Elaine Lenore
BATES, Sister Louvinia Mary Isabella
BEARD, Sister Alma May
BRIDGE, Sister Alda Joyce
CALNAN, Sister Ellenor
CASSON, Sister Florence Rebecca
CLARKE, Sister Mary Dorothea
CONNELL, Sister Joan
COX, Captain Florence Adelaide
CRAIG, Sister Marie Eileen
CUTHBERTSON, Sister Mary Elizabeth
DAVIS, Captain Winnie May
DeMESTRE, Sister Margaret Augusta
DOIDGE, Lieutenant Doris Irene
DONOHUE, Captain Ellen
DORSCH, Sister Hilda Millicent Maria
DRUMMOND, Matron Irene Melville
ELMES, Sister Dorothy Gwendoline Howard
ENNIS, Sister Caroline Mary
EUNSON, Sister Marion Watt
FAIRWEATHER, Sister Lorna Florence
FARMANER, Sister Peggy Everett

FINCH, Staff Nurse Nancy Mary
FOULKES, Lieutenant Francesca Mary
FREEMAN, Sister Rubina Dorothy
GARDAM, Sister Dora Shirley
GAY, Staff Nurse Joan Margaret
HALLIGAN, Sister Clarice Isobel
HARRIS, Sister Nancy
HAULTAIN, Sister Helen Francis Jane Cynthia
HEMPSTED, Captain Pauline Blanche
HODGSON, Sister Minnie Ivy
HUGHES, Lieutenant Gladys Laura
JACKSON, Sister Margaret Lawrence
JEWELL, Matron Sarah Anne
KEATS, Sister Ellen Louisa
KERR, Sister Janet
KING, Sister Evelyn Veronica
KINSELLA, Sister Kathleen
LONG, Sister Sheila Mary
MITTELHEUSER, Captain Pearl Beatrice
MORTON, Staff Nurse Edith Mary
MOSTON, Captain Myrtle
McDONALD, Sister Gladys Myrtle
McFARLANE, Sister Mary Hamilton
McGLADE, Sister Mary Eleanor
McMAHON, Lieutenant Bernadine Theresa
McPHAIL, Sister Lilian Elaine
NEUSS, Sister Kathleen Margaret
O'DONNELL, Sister Alice Margaret
PASCHKE, Matron Olive Dorothy
PRIDEAUX, Lieutenant Nita Alice
RAYMONT, Lieutenant Wilhelmina Rosalie
ROBERTSON, Sister Gwendoline Hope
RUTHERFORD, Captain Eileen Mary
RUSSELL, Sister Lavinia Joan
SALMON, Sister Florence Annin
SCHUMAN, Sister Marjorie
SHAW, Sister Edna Alice
SHEAH, Sister Verdun Bernice
SINGLETON, Lieutenant Irene Ada
SMITH, Lieutenant Lillian Winifred
STEWART, Sister Esther Sarah Joan
STEVENSON, Lieutenant Frances Amy
STEVENSON, Lieutenant Heather Lillian
TAIT, Sister Mona Margaret Anderson
THIEDEKE, Sister Cynthia Mabel
THOMAS, Matron Gladys Margaret
TRENERRY, Sister Annie Merle
WALKER, Sister Wendy Jenny
WIGHT, Sister Rosetta Joan
WILMOTT, Sister Bessie
WILTON, Sister Mona Margaret
WYLLIE, Sister Doris Joyce

VIETNAM

BLACK, Captain Barbara Frances

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions and answers are as supplied to Hansard.

REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT

316. Hon NORM KELLY to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) In relation to the decision that areas known to be affected by *Phytophthora cinnamomi* are regarded as being disturbed and therefore not included as candidate old growth -
 - (a) who made this decision in relation to the Regional Forest Agreement and when;
 - (b) what extent/degree of dieback is considered "affected";
 - (c) are dieback-affected road, river and stream zones similarly covered by this decision; and
 - (d) will the areas of dieback-affected forest in, for example, Lane Poole Reserve, Shannon and Walpole Nornalup National Parks be deducted from the figure for the area of forest in conservation reserves and will additional areas of uninfected forest be required to meet the target figures of 15% pre-European forest and 60 per cent minimum old growth to be reserved?
- (2) To what extent/degree are the 10 000 hectares of forest in the sunklands area, voluntarily deferred by the State Government during 1997, affected by dieback?
- (3) Why was the Hilliger Forest eliminated as a potential conservation reserve without a full assessment of its conservation values or any public consultation?
- (4) Does the Minister for the Environment have written assurances from officers at the Department of Conservation and Land Management ("CALM") that officers from CALM were not responsible for placing a fraudulent Temporary Control Area sign on or near the boundary of Hilliger Forest on or before November 6, 1997?
- (5) If yes, will the Minister table the document(s)?
- (6) At the current rate of log extraction, how long will logging for old-growth jarrah sawlog be able to continue in the Nannup Shire?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

- (1)
 - (a) The Commonwealth and Western Australian Project Managers for the old growth forest mapping project made this decision during 1997.
 - (b) The decision rule is based on dieback presence/absence.
 - (c) Yes.
 - (d) Dieback presence/absence is not a factor in the rule set for the extant distribution of forest ecosystems, and therefore dieback presence/absence does not influence the assessment of reservation in relation to the 15% pre-European forest target. Dieback presence/absence is a factor in the rule set for old growth forest and so areas with records of dieback being present, both inside and outside of reserves, are determined not to be old growth forest and do not contribute to the assessment of reservation level.
- (2) 15% of the voluntarily deferred area in the sunklands is recorded as dieback affected.
- (3) Hilliger Forest Block has not been eliminated as a potential conservation reserve in the Regional Forest Assessment process. Recent logging has only affected a small portion of the block which had been most severely affected by dieback.
- (4) Allegations have previously been made by the Western Australian Forest Alliance regarding placing a sign on or near the boundary of Hilliger forest block on or before November 6 1997.
 CALM has advised that during the construction phase of the Beenup Power line which traverses through part of Hilliger forest block extra precautions were taken to minimise the risk of spreading dieback. One of these precautions was to upgrade a section of the power line access road along South Coast Road and the road was closed for both safety and hygiene reasons during the upgrading phase and a number of signs were erected for this purpose. There was no temporary control area declared in accordance with the CALM Act. I have been advised that the officer responsible has indicated that the signs did display the words Temporary Control Area. This was done without any reference to me or senior officers of the Department.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) I am unable to provide an answer until the Regional Forest Agreement has been signed and the impact of any additional reservation of State forest has been assessed.

RALLY AUSTRALIA - DETAILS OF CONTRACTS

555. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the Minister for Tourism:

With regards to the 1998 API Rally Australia, can the Minister provide the following details of all contracts awarded which relate to the staging of this year's Rally -

- (a) the contract number;
- (b) the date it was awarded;
- (c) the project the contract was awarded for;
- (d) the cost of the contract;
- (e) if the contract was advertised; and
- (f) where and when was it advertised?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (a)-(f) I table all contracts awarded, which relate to the staging of the 1998 Rally Australia. Please note that all sponsorship contracts over \$50 000 received sole supplier exemption from State Supply Commission. For sponsorship contracts valued under \$50 000, Rally Australia has historically had to approach more than one potential sponsor in each category, before negotiating a final sponsorship agreement with the most suitable sponsor. [See paper No 1012.]

CONSULTANTS - WA TOURISM COMMISSION

562. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the Minister for Tourism:

In reference to the "Report on Consultants Engaged by Government for the Six Months ended December 31, 1997", page 1, under the heading "WA Tourism Commission" ("WATC") -

- (1) In what capacity was the firm Garry Connelly & Associates employed by the WATC?
- (2) Is Garry Connelly & Associates or Mr Garry Connelly still employed by the WATC?
- (3) What are/were the terms of their remuneration?
- (4) On what date were they employed, and what is/was the term of their employment?
- (5) Who awarded the contract?
- (6) If the contract was advertised, where and when was it advertised?
- (7) Were any other firms or individuals considered for the contract?
- (8) If yes to (7) above, can the Minister name them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) Garry Connelly & Associates is responsible for the provision of services as detailed below -

In its capacity as consultant to the Event (Rally Australia) the Consultant, Garry Connelly & Associates, shall be responsible for and shall provide the following services, in each case in accordance with the reasonable directions of EventsCorp:

The development and implementation of policies, practices and procedures relating to the competition requirements for the Event;

Route selection for the Event and identification of all requisite constructions for the route together with identification and advice as to the reasonable safety requirements in respect of the Event route;

Drafting of the Event regulations;

Drafting of the Event road book;

Drafting of the Event Safety plan;

Development and implementation of timing;

Development and implementation of security and safety strategies;

Development and implementation of rescue and recovery strategies;

Development and implementation of communications and SOS systems;

Development and implementation of satisfactory scrutineering procedures;

Management of Event officials to ensure that any and all training programs are undertaken and that adequate numbers of suitably qualified officials are available for the purposes of the Event;

Development and implementation of arrangements for reconnaissance;

Development and implementation of arrangements for service of competitor vehicles;

Development and implementation of the establishment of Event headquarters;

Development and implementation of field results centres;

Preparation of Event bulletins and Event advices to competitors from time to time and preparation of suitable distribution list;

Preparation of all requisite information detailing the competition procedures and documentation for competitors and teams and preparation of a suitable distribution list

Provide French Translation Services for translation of documentation and correspondence from the FIA and other World Rally organisers.

- (2) Yes.
- (3) An annual fee is paid for services as listed in Question One, plus an annual fee for French Translation Services, and is subject to an annual CPI or 5% increase, whichever is greater, plus reasonable out of pocket expenses as listed in the contract.
- (4) Current contract was executed on 24 May 1996. It covers the 1996 to 2000 Rally Events.
- (5) The Western Australian Tourism Commission.
- (6) It was not advertised as Mr Garry Connelly, whose personal services are provided by the consultant, is the only Australian endorsed by the Federation Internationale d'Automobile (FIA) and CAMS Ltd (Australia's Governing Body of Motorsport) to act as Clerk of Course for a World Rally Championship Event. The use of overseas companies/qualified individuals was considered and Rally Australia decided to use an Australian company for the reason of location and convenience. Coopers and Lybrand have prepared an independent assessment of the value of the Consultant's services and this value has been incorporated into the contract.
- (7) No. Please refer to Question (6).
- (8) Not applicable.

FISHERIES, BREACHES OF LEGISLATION

893. Hon KIM CHANCE to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Fisheries:

- (1) Is the Minister for Fisheries aware that the Auditor General's 12th Report identifies instances of illegal fishing which are recorded in data held by the Fisheries Department's CAESS system but which has never been corrected nor used as a basis for prosecution by the department?
- (2) If so, can the Minister explain what action he will now take to ensure that identified breaches of the law are properly investigated by the appropriate agency?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1)-(2) The Office of the Auditor General's Report does not provide any specific details of illegal fishing activities. There was evidence of possible illegal activity which occurred during the period when the take of northern demersal fish was controlled by both Western Australian and Commonwealth legislation. During this time Fisheries WA undertook preliminary investigations of the fishing activity of vessels operating illegal fishing methods within these waters. The intelligence gathered by Fisheries WA regarding illegal fishing methods was communicated to the Australian Fisheries Management Authority in their capacity as the legislative authority controlling these fishing methods. The subsequent advice from Australian Fisheries Management Authority was that no prosecution action would be undertaken. Wherever sufficient evidence of an illegal fishing activity is available, enforcement action is taken by Fisheries WA or by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, depending upon the relevant jurisdiction.

POTATO MARKETING AUTHORITY, BISHOP & ASSOCIATES' CONSULTANCY

993. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

In relation to the Potato Marketing Authority's consultancy with Bishop & Associates -

- (1) What services were provided by Bishop & Associates?
- (2) What was the total value of this consultancy?
- (3) When was it awarded and when does it cease?
- (4) Were tenders called for this consultancy?
- (5) If yes, how many firms or individuals tendered?
- (6) If not, why not?
- (7) How much has been paid to Bishop & Associates since the commencement of this consultancy?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) The following services were provided by Bishop & Associates -
 - 1993/94 Washing Shed Feasibility Study
 - Drybrush/Export Shed Feasibility Study
 - 1995 Vision Values & Leadership Seminars
 - 1995/96 Code of Practice/Bench marking/Quality Assurance in conjunction with the Food Centre and SGS and conduct Quality Audits
 - 1996 Customer Service Survey
 - 1996/99 Development and implementation of a HACCP Plan and SQF 2000 Accreditation, involving washpackers and potato growers.
- (2) Total value of this consultancy is \$255,252.56.
- (3) The first project was undertaken in 1993 and the last project concluded in March 1999.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Three.
- (6) Not applicable.
- (7) See answer to (2) above.

SALINITY ACTION PLAN

1002. Hon KIM CHANCE to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

I refer to the State Government's Salinity Action Plan and ask -

- (1) Does the Government acknowledge the importance of the work performed by Community Land Care Co-ordinators in implementing the Government's plan under the auspices of the Land Conservation District Committees?
- (2) Is it correct that these positions are intended to be self-funding once current funding is exhausted?
- (3) If yes, how does the Minister for Primary Industry expect that Community Land Care Co-ordinators continue to perform their role in the restitution of degraded land and the combatting of salinity if no provision to fund these positions will be made after current appropriations are exhausted?
- (4) Does the Minister recognise that the work of Community Land Care Co-ordinators is inherently in both the public interest as well as in the direct interests of stakeholders and that as such the work of the Community Land Care Co-ordinators does not lend itself to a self-funding arrangement?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) There are currently around 60 Community Landcare Coordinators in Western Australia who work for community groups and assist rural landholders to undertake Land care activities. These activities complement the State Government's Salinity Action Plan, although no Community Landcare Coordinators have been employed specifically under the Salinity Action Plan.
- (2) Funding for Community Landcare Coordinators is generally in partnership between the Commonwealth Government through the Natural Heritage Trust and the Community, with the community contribution being provided by both in-kind and cash. NHT funding is generally provided for three years, with favourable consideration given to those applications where the Community Landcare Coordinator position is an integral part of a larger project. The decision on how these positions are to be funded is the responsibility of the Commonwealth.
- (3) Community Landcare Coordinators are not employed under the Salinity Action Plan but as part of Community driven NHT projects, funded by the Commonwealth.
- (4) Some self funding for Community Landcare Coordinators is already occurring as funding is a partnership between the community groups and NHT.

SALINITY, TOOLS PROVIDED

1026. Hon KIM CHANCE to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

In accordance with the principle of the State Salinity Plan to provide landholders with incentive to deal with salinity and land degradation by developing economically rational tools to use in order to make more use of water in the landscape, throughout the year, can the Minister for Primary Industry advise me -

- (1) What tools have so far been provided to landholders since the beginning of the State Salinity Plan?

- (2) Which of these tools are in commercial operation today?
- (3) Where are these commercial operations located?
- (4) Through what processes is Agriculture WA providing these tools?
- (5) Which new tools are currently being developed by the agency?
- (6) Are new tools being developed outside the agency but with agency support or knowledge, such as by research in parallel with the agency or research under contract to the agency?
- (7) Which new tools are being developed under arrangements described in (6) above?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) Tools provided include:
 - a) REX - a revegetation expert system
 - b) AgET - a water use calculator for a range of land use options
 - c) AgFAX - a dial up fax back service
 - d) drainage best practice CD ROM.
- (2) REX and AgFAX are in commercial use today. AgET and Drainage CD ROM will be available within a few weeks.
- (3) These tools are or will be available on AgWeb, Agriculture Western Australia's Internet server, or in the case of AgFAX, via the South Perth office.
- (4) The computer based tools are or will be provided through AgWeb or CD ROM.
- (5) A suit of tools to provide decision support for water management in integrated catchment management is being developed. These provide for physical and economic outputs.
- (6) Generally new tools are being developed in the Agency under the Salinity Action Plan but in collaboration with other State Agencies and industry research groups such as the Centre for Legumes in Mediterranean Agriculture, Grains Research and Development Corporation (CSIRO, Melbourne University, University of WA, etc.)
- (7) A suit of tools to provide decision support for water management in integrated catchment management is being developed. These provide for physical and economic outputs.

SALINITY, LOW RAINFALL PERENNIAL PASTURES

1027. Hon KIM CHANCE to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

With specific reference to the acknowledgement in the State Salinity Plan that the development of new perennial pastures for low rainfall areas is an important priority, can the Minister for Primary Industry advise me -

- (1) How are agency programs contributing to the development of low rainfall perennial pastures?
- (2) What level of funding has been allocated and expended in development of such pastures during -
 - (a) 1994/95;
 - (b) 1995/96;
 - (c) 1996/97;
 - (d) 1997/98;
 - (e) 1998/99; and
 - (f) 1999/2000?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) Agency programs are currently developing joint projects with the Grains Research and Development Corporation, Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation, CSIRO and University of WA, with activities ranging from fundamental research on adaption of new species to collaborative R&D with farmers to fit species into farming systems and utilisation for economic production.
- (2) Level of funding expended in development of such pastures in recent years is as follows:
 - (a)-(d) \$100,000 pa from 1994/95 - 1997/98.
 - (e) \$150,000 in 1998/ 99.
 - (f) Awaiting budget allocation.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT, FREEHOLD LAND IN SOUTH WEST

1032. Hon NORM KELLY to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for the Environment:

In regard to freehold land in the name of the Executive Director of the Department of Conservation and Land Management ("CALM") within the south-west forest region -

- (1) What area of freehold land has been sold in each of the past five years?

- (2) How much freehold land is currently held in the name of the Executive Director of CALM?
- (3) How much freehold land is currently on the market?
- (4) Is there any further areas of freehold land that is intended to be sold?
- (5) What area of pine plantation is -
 - (a) on land already sold in the last five years;
 - (b) on land currently on the market for sale; and
 - (c) on land proposed to be sold in the future?
- (6) Was any undertaking sought by CALM or given by buyers that the pine plantations on such land when harvested would be replanted to pine?
- (7) Will any be replanted to pine?
- (8) If yes, how much?
- (9) If not, why not?
- (10) What proportion of WA's current stock of publicly owned pine plantations, including those on freehold land in the name of the Executive Director, does the Minister for the Environment believe will be lost due to the sale of freehold land?
- (11) What does the Minister plan to do to make up for any such loss?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

- (1)

1994-95	Nil
1995-96	111 hectares
1996-97	1187 hectares
1997-98	568 hectares
1998-99 (to date)	1731 hectares
- (2) 30 141 hectares.
- (3) 170 hectares.
- (4) Further sales are intended, but the extent of sales and the specific properties to be sold has yet to be determined.
- (5)
 - (a) 1 520 hectares.
 - (b) 19 hectares.
 - (c) Area not known until properties to be sold has been determined.
- (6) No.
- (7)-(9) It is quite probable that some of the sold land will be re-planted to pines. However the extent of the re-plantings will be a decision for the landowners.
- (10) Only a negligible loss of publicly owned pine plantations will result from the sale of freehold land. For most sales, CALM has retained the rights to the standing timber under sharefarming agreements with the new landowners. Also, as indicated in the answer to Questions (7), (8) and (9), it is quite probable that some of the sold land will be re-planted to pines, and much of this may be done under sharefarming arrangements with CALM.
- (11) Over time, there is expected to be a significant net gain in area of public owned pine plantations. This is due to the initiative, under the State's Salinity Action Plan, for CALM to undertake extensive pine plantation establishment under sharefarming arrangements on privately owned farmland in the intermediate rainfall zone of the agricultural region.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES, SWIMMING POOL INSTALLATION PROGRAM

1036. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

- (1) Is the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs involved in promoting a "swimming pool installation program" for Western Australia's remote Aboriginal communities?
- (2) In how many Aboriginal communities across Western Australia has the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs been encouraging the communities to consider accepting funds for the construction of community swimming pools?
- (3) What State Government funds are currently available to Aboriginal communities for -
 - (a) construction; or
 - (b) maintenance of community swimming pools?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Seven Aboriginal communities and one school have been offered the opportunity to participate in the Environmental Health Package which includes the provision of swimming pools.

- (3) (a)-(b) Negotiations are continuing with various government agencies to secure funds for the construction and maintenance of community swimming pools.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES, BITUMEN ROADS

1037. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

- (1) What State Government funds were made available in the current financial year to cover the cost of bituminising the roads within settlement areas of the Aboriginal communities of Western Australia?
- (2) Which communities have or will receive allocations in the current financial year in order to bituminise roads within their community town or settlement area?
- (3) Does this work include kerbs, gutters and footpaths?
- (4) If not, why not?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) The Transform WA program administered by Main Roads WA allocated \$2m per year over 5 years for upgrading and sealing of Aboriginal community roads. The Aboriginal Communities Strategic Investment Program administered by Homeswest allocated approximately \$186,000 for design work for community roads and \$340,000 for associated drainage in 1998/99.
- (2) Two communities have received allocations this financial year, Oombulgurri in the East Kimberley and Jigalong in the East Pilbara.
- (3) At Jigalong the work included sealing of roads, kerbing and associated drainage. At Oombulgurri the scope of works included sealing of roads and associated drainage.
- (4) Kerbing at Oombulgurri was not considered design appropriate due to the potential to exacerbate flooding. Footpaths have not been given a high priority at this stage by the communities.

FISHERIES, PINK SNAPPER, SHARK BAY

1040. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Fisheries:

- (1) What consideration is being given to any proposal for the imposition of a ban on the fishing of pink snapper in the Western Gulf of Shark Bay?
- (2) On what basis is such a proposal being considered?
- (3) What scientific data is available to justify the consideration of such a proposal?
- (4) Is the Government aware of strong opposition to any such proposal from the local shire, business and community residents at Shark Bay?
- (5) When will the Minister for Fisheries be taking a decision on this proposal?
- (6) What local consultation, if any, will the Minister undertake before any such proposal is further considered or implemented?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

The Minister for Primary Industry; Fisheries has advised that:

- (1)-(6) There is no proposal currently under consideration for a ban on the fishing of pink snapper in the western inner gulf of Shark Bay. A three year scientific survey to assess the condition of the pink snapper stocks in both the Western and Eastern inner Gulfs of Shark Bay commenced in 1997. This work is ongoing. The issue of inner gulf pink snapper management has also been referred to the Gascoyne Recreational Fisheries Working Group for consideration. Proposals from this group will be published as part of a draft 5-year management strategy for recreational fishing in the Gascoyne Region. Any decisions flowing from the Gascoyne Regional Recreational Fishing Management Strategy will be made following extensive public and local consultation. The final report from this Working Group is not expected to be with the Minister until September 1999.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, GOSNELLS POLICE STATION

1057. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the WA Police Service contract awarded to Southdown Construction Co Pty Ltd for Gosnells Police Station Replacement valued at \$1 035 301 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?

- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes . Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, CANNINGTON DISTRICT POLICE COMPLEX

1059. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the WA Police Service contract awarded to Doric Construction Pty Ltd for Cannington District Police Complex construction valued at \$4 365 000 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, MURDOCH POLICE STATION

1060. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the WA Police Service contract awarded to Hawk Developments for Murdoch Police Station Construction valued at \$1 313 200 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, PORT HEDLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

1062. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the Education Department contract awarded to Geraldton Building Co Pty Ltd for Port Hedland Primary School Cooke Point valued at \$6 142 683 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, SIR CHARLES GAIRDNER HOSPITAL RENAL DIALYSIS RENOVATION

1063. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the Health Department contract awarded to Jaxon Construction Pty Ltd for Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Renal Dialysis Renovation valued at \$6 142 683 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, SOUTH WEST REGIONAL COLLEGE OF TAFE

1064. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the Department of Education and Training contract awarded to JM & ED Moore for Bunbury Campus - South West Regional College of TAFE Industrial Skills Wing valued at \$1 686 200 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, NARROGIN AGRICULTURE CENTRE

1065. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the Agriculture WA contract awarded to Best Construction Pty Ltd for Stage 1 - demolition, asbestos removal, construction, roads and parking Narrogin Agriculture Centre additions valued at \$1 717 540 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.

- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, BUSSELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

1066. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the Education Department contract awarded to Perkins Bros Builders for East Busselton Primary School construction valued at \$3 967 700 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, MIRRABOOKA DISTRICT POLICE COMPLEX

1067. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the WA Police Service contract awarded to Cooper & Oxley Builders Pty Ltd for Mirrabooka District Police Complex construction valued at \$3 585 000 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, ELLENBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

1068. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the Education Department contract awarded to Homestyle Pty Ltd for Ellenbrook Primary School Construction valued at \$2 798 120 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACT, BALLAJURA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1069. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 1482 dated April 28, 1998, in relation to the Education Department contract awarded to Cooper & Oxley Builders Pty Ltd for Ballajura Community College Stage 3B valued at \$7 285 000 -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister for Works table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) No, as formal risk management as a policy was not in place at the commencement of this project.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. Risk monitoring is being applied to the normal contract process.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Ongoing monitoring of the contract is applied through contract administration and site inspections.
- (7) Yes, as requested relating to specific issues.

TEACHERS, NINGALOO AREA

1074. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) How many Government employed school teachers are located in each of the following Ningaloo population centres -
 - (a) Meekatharra;
 - (b) Cue;
 - (c) Mt Magnet;
 - (d) Sandstone;
 - (e) Yalgoo;
 - (f) Mt James/Burringurrah;
 - (g) Onslow;

- (h) Exmouth;
 - (i) Carnarvon;
 - (j) Shark Bay/Denham;
 - (k) Gascoyne Junction;
 - (l) Useless Loop;
 - (m) Newman; and
 - (n) any other Murchison, Gascoyne or Ningaloo population centres?
- (2) How many of these teachers are currently located in shared accommodation?
- (3) What number of additional teacher accommodation units are needed in each of these centres in order to meet the needs for those teachers requiring individual accommodation?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

(1)	(a)	Meekatharra	27
	(b)	Cue	3
	(c)	Mt Magnet	16
	(d)	Sandstone	1
	(e)	Yalgoo	3
	(f)	Mt James/Burringurrah	5
	(g)	Onslow	11
	(h)	Exmouth	32
	(i)	Carnarvon	66
	(j)	Shark Bay/Denham	7
	(k)	Gascoyne Junction	0
	(l)	Useless Loop	2.5
	(m)	Newman	74
(2)	(a)	Meekatharra	6
	(b)	Cue	0
	(c)	Mt Magnet	4
	(d)	Sandstone	0
	(e)	Yalgoo	0
	(f)	Mt James/Burringurrah	0
	(g)	Onslow	0
	(h)	Exmouth	2
	(i)	Carnarvon	16
	(j)	Shark Bay/Denham	0
	(k)	Gascoyne Junction	Not applicable.
	(l)	Useless Loop	0
	(m)	Newman	4
(3)	(a)	Meekatharra	1
	(b)	Cue	0
	(c)	Mt Magnet	0
	(d)	Sandstone	0
	(e)	Yalgoo	0
	(f)	Mt James/Burringurrah	0
	(g)	Onslow	0
	(h)	Exmouth	0
	(i)	Carnarvon	4
	(j)	Shark Bay/Denham	0
	(k)	Gascoyne Junction	Not applicable.
	(l)	Useless Loop	0
	(m)	Newman	1

The above relates to the number of teachers sharing accommodation who have indicated a preference for sole occupancy.

SUBIACO REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, RAILWAY CONTRACT

1151. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Planning:

Further to the answer given to question on notice 959 in relation to the Subiaco Redevelopment Authority's contract with the firm Multiplex Constructions Pty Ltd worth approximately \$34.5 m for railway station works, can the Minister advise -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

- (1) The CAMS risk management process is only utilised on CAMS contracts. This is not a CAMS contract.

- (2)-(3) Not applicable
- (4) Yes.
- (5) All risk issues have been managed and the project has been successfully completed.
- (6) Evaluation is to be done.
- (7) Yes, when completed.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, INFILL SEWERAGE

1161. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Water Resources:

Further to the answer given to question on notice 345 of 1995 asked in the Legislative Assembly in relation to the Water Corporation's contracts worth approximately \$10.7m for infill sewerage in 1994, can the Minister for Water Resources advise -

- (1) Was the contracting project risk management process applied to this contract as per the requirements of Contract and Management Services' risk management policy?
- (2) What was the risk rating of this project?
- (3) Will the Minister table the Risk Management Plan for the Contract Development Phase of this contract?
- (4) Was any risk monitoring carried out?
- (5) If so will the Minister table the outcomes?
- (6) Was the performance of this contract evaluated?
- (7) Will the Minister table the evaluation?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

The Minister for Water Resources has provided the following response:

- (1) No. The document referred to was not published till September 1998 and in any case is a Contract and Management Services Document. The Water Corporation develops its own contracting guidelines consistent with State Supply Policy.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes, through application of accepted project management practices.
- (5) Not available.
- (6) Yes, by application of standard contract management practices.
- (7) No. Standard Contract Management practices require evaluation of each completed contract. As the Water Corporation did not introduce a centralised evaluation report management system until 1996, the Corporation is unable to provide copies of the evaluation reports for the specific contracts for work performed by the Water Corporation's Construction Branch.

MT CHARLOTTE MINE

1190. Hon GIZ WATSON to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) How many appeals were received in relation to the proposed Mount Charlotte mine?
- (2) How many letters of support were received in relation to the proposed Mount Charlotte mine?
- (3) How many appeals and letters of support were submitted to the Appeals Convenor that contained the correct lodgment fee?
- (4) Did the Appeals Convenor read all appeals and letters of support in relation to the proposed Mount Charlotte mine, including those that were not submitted with the correct lodgment fee?
- (5) If so, what process or guidelines are in place to preclude from the Appeals Convenor's deliberations information contained within those letters or appeals that do not comply with the guidelines for appeal that were not submitted with the correct lodgment fee?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

- (1) 43 appeals were lodged.
- (2) 54 letters of support for the proposed Mt Charlotte mine were received at the Appeals Convenor's Office.
- (3) All 43 appeals forwarded to the Appeal Convenor contained the prescribed \$10 appeal fee.

- (4) The appeals were read, acknowledged and a copy forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environmental Protection seeking advice as is required under Section 106(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act (1986).

The letters of support for the proposed Mt Charlotte mine were read and acknowledged.

- (5) As stated in (3) above, all appeals lodged contained the prescribed appeal fee. The Appeals Convenor's role is to examine the issues raised in appeals and in carrying out this role should take account of any relevant information. The Appeals Convenor will not be investigating issues raised in the letters of support.

EDUCATION, LITERACY PROGRAMS FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

1193. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) What level of new funding will flow through to Western Australia from the recently announced \$1 million Federal Government funds for literacy programs for Aboriginal students?
- (2) What new programs will be implemented in Western Australia as a result of these additional Commonwealth funds?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

No information has yet been received from the Commonwealth in relation to this announcement.

AGRICULTURE WA, SINGAPORE VISITS

1196. Hon KIM CHANCE to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

- (1) Which officers of Agriculture WA have visited Singapore for purposes connected with the marketing of fruit during-
- (a) 1998; and
- (b) 1999?
- (2) On how many occasions has each officer been to Singapore for this purpose during -
- (a) 1998; and
- (b) 1999?
- (3) What has been the total cost of these visits?
- (4) What has been the result of these visits in terms of sales?
- (5) Is it correct that the Singapore market is oversupplied with fresh stone fruit and that product is being diverted to Malaysia?
- (6) If so, what is the purpose of these visits?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| (1) | Elanor Melvin-Carter | Strategic alliance/ supply chain development |
| | Deborah Pitter | Strategic alliance/ supply chain development |
| | Anthony Portman | Singapore Cold Storage demonstration |
- (2) Elanor Melvin-Carter Twice
- Others Once
- (3) Total cost to Agriculture Western Australia: \$9,730
- (4) AGWEST visits to a market are designed to increase the understanding of those working within the sector and to improve decision making for long term industry development. Success is demonstrated in the long term performance of the fruit industry with an 88% expansion in trade since 1993/94, bringing average yearly growth in exports to 19% over the last five years.
- (5) Currently most South East Asian export markets are experiencing some oversupply in both the stone fruit and vegetable markets This oversupply is primarily related to short term demand reductions and seasonal supply issues and is typical of the trade volatility experienced in the horticultural export sector. The supply situation in regard to stone fruit in Singapore and Malaysia is likely to be alleviated as the Western Australian season draws to a close in the next several weeks. The Singaporean and Malaysian markets are closely interchangeable with similar product sold into both markets depending on market demand conditions.
- (6) AGWEST takes a long term view of market and industry development within all sectors of agriculture. Visits to the market are designed to assist with the setting of these long term industry development objectives. The long term outlook for stone fruit exports into Asia remains positive. Agriculture Western Australia's success with export industry development is reflected in the increase in Horticultural sector exports from Jan-Dec 1997 A\$132 million to Jan - Dec 1998 A\$149 million, despite the financial crisis in Asia.

PRISON, WOOROLOO SOUTH

1201. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Will the Minister ensure that the preferred tenderer to build and operate a private prison at Wooroloo South will not withhold any information from the public of Western Australia on the basis of commercial confidentiality?
- (2) If not, what information will not be released?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

- (1) I have made previous commitments on 26 February 1999 and 5 March 1999 with respect to this issue and I now table these for reference. [See paper No 1014.]
- (2) See (1) above.

PRISON, WOOROLOO SOUTH

1202. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Justice:

With regard to the proposed Wooroloo South private prison -

- (1) What community consultation has taken place in developing this proposal?
- (2) Which stakeholder groups were consulted?
- (3) How many individuals were consulted?
- (4) What were the outcomes of this consultation?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

- (1) In the Wooroloo area the community has been consulted intensively from the time the Government announced its intention to build a major new secure prison on grazing land at Wooroloo South. A Community Reference Group has been established to provide a two-way communication channel. This group consists of two local Members of Parliament (one from each House), one Councillor from each of the Shires of Mundaring and Northam, two senior officers of the Ministry of Justice (one of whom lives in the area) and five self-nominated residents. The Ministry provides an experienced official to act as Executive Officer to provide the group with professional administrative support. Two widely advertised and well attended public forums have been held at the Wooroloo Hall. Frequent printed progress reports are distributed to every household in the area (including the townships of Wooroloo, Wundowie and Chidlow).

Even business and trades people in the local area, in the Eastern Hills region generally and in the Midland area have been given the opportunity to formally register interest in participation in the construction and operation of the prison. The large number of expressions of interest received have been passed on to the Preferred Respondent for construction and operation of the Prison. This company has given public undertakings to maximise local participation in the project.

- (2) Particular attention has been paid to local groups with specific interest in the environment. One of the first points of consultation was with the Wooroloo Brook Land Conservation District Committee, the well-informed views of which were taken carefully into account in addressing environmental aspects of the proposal.
- (3) No count has been kept of the individuals who have been consulted, but I am advised that in the 12 months since the decision to build Wooroloo Prison South was announced, the number would be in the hundreds. They include academic authorities, people with specific expertise or experience and ordinary citizens. The Government is confident that everything possible has been, and is continuing to be done to inform the community and obtain input.
- (4) Through the consultation process shared understanding has been established between the Ministry of Justice and the community interest groups of the outcomes and expectations of the proposed Wooroloo Prison South. I also believe that through the Community Reference Group (chaired by the local member) we have established a conduit for the exchange of information between the local community and Government.

PRISON, WOOROLOO SOUTH

1203. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Will the Minister table the Confidentiality Deed (Appendix B) of the Request for Proposals for the Wooroloo South prison.
- (2) If not, why not?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

- (1) Yes. [See paper No 1015.]
- (2) Not applicable.

CRIME CLEARANCE RATES, BUNBURY

1236. Hon BOB THOMAS to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Police:

With regard to crime clearance rates -

- (1) For what categories of crime are statistics kept by the Bunbury Police district?
- (2) What were the clearance rates for these categories for -
 - (a) 1996/97; and
 - (b) 1997/98,
 for the Bunbury region?
- (3) What were the corresponding clearance rates for the State?

The answer was tabled. [See paper No 1016.]

LEEWIN GROUP TRAINING SCHEME, TRAINEE NUMBERS

1241. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

- (1) How many trainees are currently registered with the Leeuwin Group Training Scheme?
- (2) How many are doing apprenticeships?
- (3) How many are doing a pre-apprenticeship?
- (4) Can the Minister for Employment and Training confirm that apprentices have been withdrawn from Balga and Thornlie TAFEs three months prior to the completion of their courses in order to finish with the Leeuwin Group Training Scheme?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) 17.
- (2) 44. 25 are registered and 19 on probation.
- (3) Nil.
- (4) Balga and Thornlie TAFEs have advised that they are not aware of any apprentices withdrawing prior to the completion of their courses in order to finish with the Leeuwin Group Training Scheme.

MASTER BUILDERS ASSOCIATION GROUP TRAINING SCHEME TRUST

1242. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

- (1) Is the Minister for Employment and Training aware that the Master Builder's Association ("MBA") has terminated all relationships with Radock Pty Ltd trading as the MBA Group Training Scheme Trust?
- (2) Who are the two shareholders of Radock Pty Ltd trading as the MBA Group Training Scheme Trust?
- (3) Do the shareholders in the MBA Group Training Scheme Trust make any financial gain from their shareholdings?
- (4) How much funding has Radock Pty Ltd trading as the MBA Group Training Scheme Trust received from the government in the following financial years -
 - (a) 1992/93;
 - (b) 1993/94;
 - (c) 1994/95;
 - (d) 1995/96;
 - (e) 1996/97;
 - (f) 1997/98; and
 - (g) 1998/99?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Eric Bevan and Harvey Stuart McLeod.
- (3) There are no shareholders in the MBA Group Training Scheme Trust.
- (4) The Department of Training's details regarding funding of Radock Pty Ltd trading as the MBA Group Training Scheme Trust are as follows:
 - (a)-(g) Nil.

STATE TRAINING BOARD, PERSONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE FOR MEMBERS

1243. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

- (1) How much personal indemnity insurance policy coverage is currently in place for each member of the State Training Board ("STB")?

- (2) Can the Minister for Employment and Training advise whether the personal indemnity insurance for the members of the State Training Board requires notification to be made to the insurer, of any likely event that could result in a claim?
- (3) Has the Chair of the State Training Board or the Director of the Office of the State Training Board advised its personal indemnity insurers that there is a likelihood of a claim against either the STB as an entity and or individual members of the State Training Board?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) None. Vocational Education and Training Act 1996 - Section 64 applies.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, DISPUTES

1257. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to page 9 of the 1997/98 Contract and Management Services (CAMS) annual report -

- (1) How many contractual disputes arose in 1997/98?
- (2) For each dispute, can the Minister for Works provide the following details -
 - (a) the parties in the dispute;
 - (b) the details of the dispute itself;
 - (c) the financial value, if any, of the dispute;
 - (d) the date the dispute was brought to CAMS;
 - (e) the date the dispute was settled; and
 - (f) the result and final cost of the dispute?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) Five contractual disputes arose in 1997/98.
- (2)
 - (a)
 - (i) DM Drainage Pty Ltd and Minister for Works
 - (ii) Thornton Building Co Pty Ltd. and Minister for Works
 - (iii) Metplant Engineering Services Pty Ltd and Minister for Works
 - (iv) PR Paul and Co. and Minister for Works
 - (v) Ross's Sales and Auctions and CAMS
 - (b)
 - (i) Dispute over interpretation of documents in relation to method and consistency of excavated material (latent condition).
 - (ii) Dispute over interpretation of documents in relation to inclusion of special waste treatment system and others. Writ issued against Minister for Works.
 - (iii) Dispute over reduction in payment due to reduction in contract period.
 - (iv) Contractual dispute over scope of work and contents of specification.
 - (v) CAMS claimed contractor breached provisions of the contract relating to conflict of interest and buyers premiums.
 - (c)
 - (i) \$305,483 plus interest
 - (ii) \$72,809
 - (iii) \$59,055 plus interest
 - (iv) \$3,635 plus interest
 - (v) There was no financial value associated with the dispute.
 - (d)
 - (i) 25 May 1996
 - (ii) 14 February 1997
 - (iii) 16 July 1996
 - (iv) 28 December 1995
 - (v) 25 April 1997
 - (e)
 - (i) 25 February 1998
 - (ii) 19 March 1998
 - (iii) 8 June 1998
 - (iv) 12 June 1998
 - (v) 4 November 1998
 - (f)
 - (i) Settled at mediation. Payment to DM Drainage Pty Ltd. Final cost \$256,000.
 - (ii) Negotiated settlement. Payment to Thornton Building Co Pty Ltd. Final cost \$53,000.
 - (iii) Court decision in favour of Minister for Works. Nil cost.
 - (iv) Arbitrators award split between Minister for Works and PR Paul and Co. \$1,150 paid to PR Paul and Co. Balance dismissed.
 - (v) CAMS terminated the contract.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, PUBLIC LIABILITY CLAIMS

1258. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to page 9 of the 1997/98 Contract and Management Services (CAMS) annual report, can the Minister for Works provide the following details of each of the public liability claims managed by CAMS in association with RiskCover -

- (a) the name of the claimant;
- (b) who the claim was lodged against;
- (c) the details of the claim itself;
- (d) the value of the claim;
- (e) the date the claim was lodged; and
- (f) the result and final cost of the claim?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (a)
 - (i) I G Pratt
 - (ii) E J Hogg
 - (iii) J M Truman
- (b)
 - (i) Minister for Works
 - (ii) Minister for Works
 - (iii) State of Western Australia
- (c)
 - (i) Fell exiting TAFE class in wet, poorly lit area, Fremantle Prison
 - (ii) Stumbled on rough pathway, Fremantle Prison
 - (iii) Mesothelioma, Wittenoom
- (d)
 - (i) Unspecified
 - (ii) \$25,000
 - (iii) Unspecified
- (e)
 - (i) 27 February 1998
 - (ii) 3 April 1998
 - (iii) 24 October 1997
- (f)
 - (i) Unresolved
 - (ii) Unresolved
 - (iii) Unresolved

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, FACILITY PLANNING PROCESS

1259. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to page 14 of the 1997/98 Contract and Management Services (CAMS) annual report -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works table the advice provided by CAMS to the Education Department of WA (EDWA) on the facility planning process, the evaluation of existing schools' performance, and the development of a facilities management data warehouse information system as part of EDWA's local area education planning?
- (2) If not, why not?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) The EDWA local area planning approach required facility plans to be produced at a District level. CAMS has developed facility planning and evaluation frameworks that can be used as a guide by agencies in undertaking facility planning. CAMS provided EDWA with advice on methodology for undertaking their local area facility planning and evaluation of the suitability of existing facilities. CAMS has been assisting EDWA to develop a data warehouse to store their facility management information. CAMS and EDWA jointly developed the system to store information from CAMS systems and combine it with information from EDWA systems so information on facilities is available on line to EDWA district planners.
- (2) Not applicable.

SUTHERLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, COVERED ASSEMBLY CONTRACT

1264. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a covered assembly at Sutherland Primary School in Dianella -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
 - (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?

- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 15 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2390, Sutherland Primary School - Upgrade, also included Sports Store, Administration, Science and Technology, Arts and Crafts and toilet upgrades.
 - (b) Awarded on 23 February 1996.
 - (c) Prime Projects Construction Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$293,000.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$300,330.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
 - . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

GERALDTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1265. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a library at Geraldton Primary School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
 - (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 13 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2423, Geraldton Primary School - Upgrade, also included a Sports Store, Covered Assembly and Canteen.
 - (b) Awarded on 18 April 1996.
 - (c) Geraldton Building Co. Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$375,600.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$406,370.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -

- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
- . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
- . access to the site;
- . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
- . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

KEWDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CANTEEN-COVERED ASSEMBLY CONTRACT

1266. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a canteen covered assembly at Kewdale Primary School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
- (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 16 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
- (a) Contract number 2697, Kewdale Primary - Alterations and Extensions, also included a Pre-Primary area, Canteen and Covered Assembly, alterations to Administration and external works.
 - (b) Awarded on 14 June 1996.
 - (c) Homestyle Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$1,175,000.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$1,218,875.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

PALMYRA PRIMARY SCHOOL, COVERED ASSEMBLY CONTRACT

1269. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a covered assembly at Palmyra Primary School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
 - (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 18 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2553 also included Covered Assemblies for Graylands, Melville and Richmond Primary Schools.
 - (b) Awarded on 6 May 1996.
 - (c) Prime Projects Construction Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$601,043.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$690,399.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
 - . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.
- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

CORRIGIN HIGH SCHOOL, INDUSTRIAL ARTS CENTRE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1271. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build an industrial arts centre at Corrigin High School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
 - (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 20 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2706, Corrigin High School - Alterations and Additions, also included Home Economics, Covered Assembly, and alterations to Administration, Arts and Crafts, toilets and classrooms.

- (b) Awarded on 24 June 1996.
 - (c) Lakis Construction.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$618,500.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$710,070.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.
- The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.
- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

JURIEN HIGH SCHOOL, TECHNOLOGY CENTRE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1272. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a technology centre at Jurien High School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
- (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 27 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) (a) Contract number 2871, Jurien District High School - Additions, also included a General Teaching Area, Canteen and Covered Assembly, and associated external works.
 - (b) Awarded on 15 November 1996.
 - (c) Cooper and Oxley Builders Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$2,152,500.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$2,285,754.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under

the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

LOCKRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, CLASSROOM CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1273. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a classroom at Lockridge High School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
- (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 12 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
- (a) Contract number 2913, Lockridge High School - Additions also included staff offices.
 - (b) Awarded on 2 January 1997.
 - (c) Prime Projects Construction Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$368,800.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$393,113.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

MARGARET RIVER HIGH SCHOOL, CLASSROOM CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1274. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a classroom at Margaret River High School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
- (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?

- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 11 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2826, Margaret River High School Stage 2, also included Design and Technology, Science Block, Auditorium, Food and Textile, alterations and external works.
 - (b) Awarded on 18 September 1996.
 - (c) Pindan Constructions.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$2,648,500.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$2,860,258.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
 - . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.
- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

NARROGIN HIGH SCHOOL, CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1275. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract for alterations and additions at Narrogin High School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
 - (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 65 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2877, Narrogin High School - Alterations and Additions, covered four (4) different areas of alterations and additions, Arts and Crafts, and Food and Textiles.
 - (b) Awarded on 21 November 1996.
 - (c) Best Constructions Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$1,159,375.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$1,198,787.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
 - . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);

- . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
- . access to the site;
- . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
- . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

QUAIRADING HIGH SCHOOL, INDUSTRIAL ARTS CENTRE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1276. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build an industrial arts centre at Quairading High School -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
- (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 16 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
- (a) Contract number 2924, Quairading District High School - Alterations and Additions, also included an Administration upgrade, North and South Wing upgrades, Junior Primary upgrade and disabled toilet.
 - (b) Awarded on 17 January 1997.
 - (c) Spadaccini Bros.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$824,750.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$945,586.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

ROCKINGHAM DENTAL CLINIC, CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1277. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to make additions to the Rockingham Dental Clinic -

(1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -

- (a) the contract number;
- (b) the date the contract was awarded;
- (c) the name of the contractor;
- (d) the original cost of the contract; and
- (e) the actual final cost of the contract?

(2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 10 per cent over the benchmark?

(3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2916.
 - (b) Awarded on 9 January 1997.
 - (c) Centreline construction.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$290,809.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$323,319.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
 - . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.

The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.

- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

CAPITA CENTRE, CONTRACT DETAILS

1278. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract for an office fitout at the Capita Centre in Perth -

(1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -

- (a) the contract number;
- (b) the date the contract was awarded;
- (c) the name of the contractor;
- (d) the original cost of the contract; and
- (e) the actual final cost of the contract?

(2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 15 per cent over the benchmark?

(3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
 - (a) Contract number 2810.
 - (b) Awarded on 9 September 1996.
 - (c) Cabsteel Industries.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$494,000.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$469,127.

- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.
- The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.
- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

HALLS CREEK POLICE STATION, CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1279. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Works:

With regard to the contract to build a Police Station at Halls Creek -

- (1) Can the Minister for Works state the following -
- (a) the contract number;
 - (b) the date the contract was awarded;
 - (c) the name of the contractor;
 - (d) the original cost of the contract; and
 - (e) the actual final cost of the contract?
- (2) With regard to Contract and Management Services' (CAMS) "1996/97 Key Performance Indicator - Building Cost Compared with Benchmark", can the Minister state why this contract is 22 per cent over the benchmark?
- (3) What is the benchmark used by CAMS to compare this building contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)
- (a) Contract number 2830.
 - (b) Awarded on 19 September 1996.
 - (c) Jaxon Construction Pty Ltd.
 - (d) Accepted tender sum \$1,773,838.
 - (e) Actual final cost of the contract is \$1,868,037.
- (2) The amount any given project deviates from the statistical average (benchmark) is affected by many and varied factors. These may include -
- . current workload of the relevant section of the building construction industry (competitiveness of tender);
 - . complexity of the overall project package (greenfields site versus addition to occupied premises);
 - . access to the site;
 - . differing architectural styles to match existing premises or client needs;
 - . availability of sub-contractors employing appropriate numbers of apprentices.
- The Key Performance Indicators mentioned contain a diverse range of building projects with more projects under the benchmark than over. The resultant performance of all projects for the 1996/97 financial year is an average 7.5% under the benchmark.
- (3) CAMS used information derived from elemental analyses of accepted tenders produced by CAMS during the 1996/97 financial year. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are comparisons of the cost benchmark for each type of building. The building cost subtotal only is compared with the benchmark (ie external works and services are not benchmarked). Benchmark figures are calculated using information from recognised industry publications, various public works agencies and private suppliers. All costs used in the KPIs are adjusted to comparable Perth prices at the date of tender.

ETHNIC PEAK ORGANISATIONS

1289. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests:

- (1) How many "Ethnic Peak Organisations" are recognised as such by -
- the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests; and
 - the Office of Citizenship and Multicultural Interests?
- (2) Can the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests name these "Ethnic Peak Organisations"?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1)-(2) The peak ethnic organisation recognised by the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests and Office of Citizenship and Multicultural Interests is the Ethnic Communities Council of WA Inc.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE, FUNDING

1294. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) How much funding has been allocated for English as a Second Language within the Literacy Program in -
- 1994/95;
 - 1995/96;
 - 1996/97;
 - 1997/98; and
 - 1998/99?
- (2) How many English as a Second Language Support Program teachers within the Literacy Program have been appointed in -
- 1994/95;
 - 1995/96;
 - 1996/97;
 - 1997/98; and
 - 1998/99?
- (3) With regard to the Minister for Education's answer to (2) above, can the Minister for Education break this answer down into -
- primary level; and
 - secondary level,
- for each Education District?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) Since 1998, ESL has been funded from the Commonwealth Literacy Program. Funding is received from the Commonwealth for English as a Second Language (ESL) in calendar years.

(a)	1994	\$6 390 552
(b)	1995	\$6 400 000
(c)	1996	\$6 000 000
(d)	1997	\$6 100 000
(e)	1998	\$6 361 328
	1999	\$6 101 328

- (2) (a)-(c) Not available.
- 1997 136 teachers appointed to 138 full time and part time positions.
 - 1998 115 teachers appointed to 116 full time and part time positions.
 - 1999 119 teachers appointed to 120 full time and part time positions.

(3) 1997 (1/12/97)	(a) Primary	(b) Secondary	
District			
Bunbury	2	-	
Cannington	3	4	
Fremantle	13	17	
Goldfields	2	-	
Joondalup	1	-	
Peel	-	1	
Perth	19	31	
Pilbara	3	1	
Swan	20	18	
Warren-Blackwood	1	-	
Totals	66	72	138
1998 (1/12/98)	(a) Primary	(b) Secondary	
District			
Cannington	2	6	
Fremantle	13	16	

Midwest	1	1	
Peel	-	2	
Perth	13	32	
Pilbara	1	-	
Swan	12	16	
Warren-Blackwood	1	-	
Totals	43	73	116
1999 (24/3/99)	(a) Primary	(b) Secondary	
District			
Cannington	2	8	
Fremantle	15	16	
Kimberley	1	-	
Midwest	-	4	
Perth	14	32	
Pilbara	2	-	
Swan	9	17	
Totals	43	77	120

PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES, ENGLISH PROGRAMS

1295. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) What provision has been made for children of non-English speaking background to learn English at pre-school centres for five-year-olds?
- (2) What programs does the Education Department have in place to deal with English problems arising in children of non-English speaking backgrounds at pre-school centres for five-year-olds?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) English as a Second Language (ESL) support is provided to five year-old students through the ESL visiting teacher service. Within the metropolitan area there are two ESL visiting teachers to service the needs of stage one ESL students which includes pre-primary aged students. Additionally, in Semester Two, a pre-primary ESL visiting teacher service operates to specifically meet the ESL needs of pre-primary aged ESL students within the Koondoola Intensive Language Centre intake area.
- (2) The visiting teacher service provides program support resources and consultancy services to teachers of five year-old students who require language support in pre-school centres. Additional support is provided to schools on a needs basis.

EDUCATION, CROSS-CULTURAL TRAINING COURSES

1296. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Since July 1, 1994, how many Cross-Cultural Training courses, aimed at familiarising -
 - (a) classroom teachers;
 - (b) district and schools professional support staff;
 - (c) district and school psychologists;
 - (d) para-professional staff; and
 - (e) non-education administrative staff, with the needs of children on non-indigenous Cultural and Linguistic Diverse backgrounds, have been conducted at -
 - (i) Central Office level;
 - (ii) District level; and
 - (iii) school level?
- (2) How many of these courses were conducted in -
 - (a) 1994/95;
 - (b) 1995/96;
 - (c) 1996/97; and
 - (d) 1997/98?
- (3) How many of these courses are proposed to be conducted in 1998/99?
- (4) Which districts, primary schools and secondary schools have had these cross-cultural training courses in -
 - (a) 1994/95;
 - (b) 1995/96;
 - (c) 1996/97; and
 - (d) 1997/98?
- (5) Which districts and schools will conduct these courses in 1999?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) (a)-(e) The Aboriginal cultural awareness training package, "Our Story" commenced implementation at the

district level in 1998 to ensure that all employees have a better understanding of Aboriginal people and the contexts in which they live. The number of "Our Story" training courses that have been conducted are:

- (i) 2
 - (ii) 11
 - (iii) There have been 30 courses conducted at the school level and representatives from 96 schools have attended.
- (2) (a)-(b) Not applicable.
- (c) 1
- (d) 42
- (3) In 1998 there were 42 courses conducted. It is unknown at this stage how many courses will be conducted in 1999, although all 16 districts will be delivering a number of Aboriginal cultural awareness training courses.
- (4) (a)-(b) Not applicable.
- (c) Former Moora Education District (pilot program).
- (d) The following districts have conducted Aboriginal cultural awareness training courses in 1998:
- Cannington
 - Fremantle
 - Goldfields
 - Joondalup
 - Mid West
 - Midlands
 - Peel
 - Pilbara
 - Swan
 - Warren-Blackwood

Staff from the following schools participated in Aboriginal cultural awareness training courses in 1998:

- Allendale Primary School
- Armadale Education Support Centre
- Avonvale Education Support Centre
- Avonvale Primary School
- Badgingarra Primary School
- Beachlands Primary School
- Beacon Primary School
- Beaconsfield Primary School
- Belmont Senior High School
- Bencubbin Primary School
- Bentley Primary School
- Binnu Primary School
- Bluff Point Primary School
- Bodallin Primary School
- Burracoppin Primary School
- Burringurrah Remote Community School
- Byford Primary School
- Cadoux Primary School
- Canning College
- Cannington Education Support Centre
- Cannington Senior High School
- Carcoola Primary School
- Carine Senior High School
- Carnamah District High School
- Cervantes Primary School
- Chapman Valley Primary School
- Clarkson Primary School
- Cloverdale Education Support Centre
- Coorow Primary School
- Cue Primary School
- Cunderdin Agricultural College
- Cyril Jackson Senior Campus
- Dongara District High School
- East Kenwick Primary School
- Eastern Goldfields Senior High School
- Eneabba Primary School
- Forrestfield Senior High School
- Gabbin Primary School
- Geraldton Primary School
- Geraldton Secondary College
- Guildford Primary School
- Harvey Senior High School
- High Wycombe Primary School
- Holland Street School

Jurien District High School
Kalamunda Primary School
Kalamunda Senior High School
Kalbarri Primary School
Kalgoorlie School of the Air
Kelmscott Senior High School
Koonawarra Primary School
Koorda Primary School
Latham Primary School
Leeman Primary School
Maddington Senior High School
Mandurah Senior High School
Manning Primary School
Meekatharra District High School
Meekatharra School of the Air
Millen Primary School
Mingenew Primary School
Mirrabooka Senior High School
Moorine Rock Primary School
Morawa Agricultural College
Morawa District High School
Morley Primary School
Mount Magnet District High School
Mukinbudin District High School
Mullewa Primary School
Muntadgin Primary School
North Merredin Primary School
Northam Primary School
Northam Senior High School
Northampton District High School
Perenjori Primary School
Pinjarra Senior High School
Quairading District High School
Rangeway Primary School
Sandstone Primary School
Shark Bay Primary School
South Merredin Primary School
Thornlie Primary School
Three Springs Primary School
Tranby Primary School
Trayning Primary School
Useless Loop Primary School
Waggrakine Primary School
Walkaway Primary School
Waroona District High School
West Northam Primary School
Westonia Primary School
White Gum Valley Primary School
Wirrabirra Education Support Centre
Yale Primary School
Yalgoo Primary School
Yuna Primary School

- (5) All districts and schools will have access to Aboriginal cultural awareness training in 1999.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, EVALUATION OF LANGUAGE SERVICES POLICY

1302. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Attorney General:

- (1) Have all Government departments and agencies under the Attorney General's control taken steps to evaluate its Language Services Policy?
- (2) How was the evaluation conducted?
- (3) Who conducted the evaluation?
- (4) What changes have been made as a result of the above activities?
- (5) Will the Attorney General table the respective Language Services Policy?
- (6) If not, why not?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) The then Office of Multicultural Interests conducted an evaluation of the Language Services Policy to determine the effectiveness of its implementation by public sector agencies in the provision of access to interpreting services for their customers.
- (2) The evaluation comprised four methodologies - surveys; case studies; focus group sessions and consultations.
- (3) The evaluation was conducted by the then Office of Multicultural Interests.

- (4)-(5) The report and recommendations are currently being considered by the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests.
- (6) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, EVALUATION OF LANGUAGE SERVICES POLICY

1307. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Police:

- (1) Have all Government departments and agencies under the Minister for Police's control taken steps to evaluate its Language Services Policy?
- (2) How was the evaluation conducted?
- (3) Who conducted the evaluation?
- (4) What changes have been made as a result of the above activities?
- (5) Will the Minister table the respective Language Services Policy?
- (6) If not, why not?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

I am advised that:

- (1) The then Office of Multicultural Interests conducted an evaluation of the Language Services Policy to determine the effectiveness of its implementation by public sector agencies in the provision of access to interpreting services for their customers.
- (2) The evaluation comprised four methodologies - surveys; case studies; focus group sessions and consultations.
- (3) The evaluation was conducted by the then Office of Multicultural Interests.
- (4)-(5) The report and recommendations are currently being considered by the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests.
- (6) Not applicable.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1336. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for Intermediate Scaffolding Training and Assessment in Malaysia, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1337. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for an International Labour Organisation (ILO) Collaborating Centre in Geneva, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1338. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for Workplace Safety Standards in Indonesia, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1339. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for Training for Malaysian construction industry inspectors, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1340. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for the 1997 Training Program under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NIOSH Malaysia, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1341. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for a Mission to China and Vietnam, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1342. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for a Delegation from Zeijiang Province, China, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1343. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for a Work Placement Program for Dr Razlan Musa, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1344. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in Thailand, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1345. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for an International Labour Organisation (ILO) Study Project, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1346. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for an Indonesian company seeking assistance with industrial certification training, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1347. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for a Work Placement Program for Ms Chalore Naklub, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1348. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for an Industrial Certification Training, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1349. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for Medical Practitioners from Malaysia, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1350. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project the opening of a Crane Operators Testing and Training Centre (COTT) in Malaysia, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1351. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for an International Labour Organisation (ILO) Accident Reporting Project with the Indonesian Government, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1352. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for the visit of Dr Ismail Lasa, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1353. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for an Occupational Safety and Health Certification International scheme with LPKK Alkon in Indonesia, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1354. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for a Mission to China, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1355. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for a Hazardous Substance Course in Malaysia, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1356. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for the visit by Ms Keke Leretholi, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1357. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for the visit by Mr Fadzil Osman, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1358. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training: With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for the visit by the Chinese Coal Mining Safety Delegation, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1359. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for the visit by Indonesian Occupational Hygienists, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1360. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for the visit by Dr Abed Onn, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1361. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for WorkSafe Western Australia's Certification International, can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and

- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

WORKSAFE WA, 1997 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

1362. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:
With regard to the WorkSafe Western Australia 1997 international project for an Occupational Safety and Health Network (OSHNET), can the Minister for Employment and Training state -

- (a) the total cost of the project;
- (b) the cost of the project in -
 - (i) 1996/97;
 - (ii) 1997/98;
 - (iii) 1998/99; and
 - (iv) 1999/2000;
- (c) the commencement and cease dates of the project; and
- (d) the names of any private contractors which assisted WorkSafe with the project, and the remuneration received by them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

This question has been wrongly directed to the Minister for Employment and Training. The honourable member is well aware that WorkSafe Western Australia comes within the responsibility of the Minister for Labour Relations, and she should direct this question to her.

NEWTON MOORE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

1363. Hon BOB THOMAS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

With regard to Newton Moore Senior High School -

- (1) Can the Minister guarantee that Newton Moore Senior High School will retain the services of its school based police officer?
- (2) When will Newton Moore Senior High School receive funding for the upgrade of its administration building?
- (3) When will Newton Moore Senior High School receive funding for its student services building?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) I am advised by the Minister for Police that the school based police officer at Newton Moore Senior High School is expected to remain for the current year. The continuation of this service is at all times dependent on need and other staffing and operational requirements in the Bunbury Police District.
- (2)-(3) The upgrade of the administration building and student services centre at Newton Moore Senior High School is listed for consideration in a future capital works program. At this stage, however, the proposed work does not have a high priority in relation to the needs of other schools.

KIMBERLEY SCHOOLS, SUPPORT TEACHERS FOR HEARING IMPAIRED STUDENTS

1364. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) How many support teachers are available for hearing impaired students in the Kimberley region?
- (2) Which towns and communities in the Kimberley are provided with access to these support teachers?.
- (3) How regularly do these support teachers visit each hearing impaired student?
- (4) What funding is available to ensure that the support teachers are able to travel to remote schools with hearing impaired students?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) One full-time Teacher of the Deaf has been appointed to the Kimberley area since the beginning of the 1999 school year.
- (2) All towns and communities in the Kimberley are able to access the services provided by the Teacher of the Deaf based in the Kimberley.

- (3) The regularity of visits by the support teacher depends on the child's degree of hearing loss, educational needs and location. Visits range from a single visit per year to a weekly visit. Other support is able to be provided by telecommunication.
- (4) Funding for the support teacher is provided from the operational budget of the Western Australian Institute for Deaf Education.

SCHOOLS, MANDURAH SENIOR COLLEGE

1377. Hon J.A. COWDELL to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Did projections for a comprehensive senior college in Mandurah envisage the expenditure of \$27m?
- (2) Have the plans for the senior college been altered to bring expenditure down to \$21m?
- (3) If so, what has been cut in order to effect this budgetary saving?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) No. The school was originally costed at approximately \$21 million.
- (2) No. At this stage, the estimated total cost to the Education Department and the Western Australian Department of Training has been increased to \$24.23 million.
- (3) The senior campus will be provided with all the facilities needed to enable the future curriculum for Year 11 and 12 students to be delivered effectively. Furthermore, there will be flexibility in the design to enable the campus to adapt to future curriculum developments.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, MR LES SMITH

1383. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Since July 1, 1996, has Mr Les Smith been engaged by the Ministry of Justice?
- (2) What projects/work has Mr Smith carried out for the Ministry of Justice since that time?
- (3) What is the amount that has been paid to Mr Smith since that time?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

- (1) Mr Les Smith entered into a contract for service with the Director General, Ministry of Justice under section 100 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994 as from 13 January 1997. Under that contract, he is required to gather information about issues of a review nature in the Ministry of Justice and report to the Director General on those issues. A second contract was entered into with the Director General as from 13 April 1997 under which Mr Smith was primarily engaged to assist the Attorney General of Western Australia in negotiations between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Western Australia in reviewing arrangements for legal aid for people who are in need of that aid in Western Australia.
- (2) In addition to the negotiations with the Commonwealth on legal aid matters, Mr Smith has been engaged on projects and work of the following nature:
 - (a) Investigating and advising the Director General on complaints lodged by Ministry of Justice officers.
 - (b) A review of the operations of the Legal Aid Commission with a Senior Assistant Crown Solicitor and an Assistant Under Treasurer.
 - (c) Negotiations on a service level agreement between the State and the Legal Aid Commission.
 - (d) Assistance with the review of the Legal Aid Commission Act 1976 and the drafting of a Bill to amend that Act.
 - (e) An independent organisational review of the Registry of the District Court of Western Australia.
 - (f) An independent organisational review of the Child Witness Service at the District Court.
 - (g) 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.
 - (h) Conducting an inquiry into the management of a parolee's case and reporting to the Director General.
 - (i) Conducting an inquiry into the incident at Casuarina Prison on 25 December 1998 and reporting to the Director General.
 - (j) An independent review of the organisational structure of the Court Services executive in the Ministry of Justice.
- (3)

13.01.97 to 30.06.97	\$ 7,600
01.07.97 to 30.06.98	\$46,390
01.07.98 to 03.03.99	\$49,320

PRISONS, MUSTER PROTECTION REPORTS

1386. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Since September 1, 1990 has the Ministry of Justice -
 - (a) commissioned any work on prisoner muster protections; or
 - (b) prepared any papers or reports on prisoner muster protections?
- (2) How many internally prepared and externally commissioned reports/papers have been prepared/received by the Ministry of Justice on prisoner muster protections since September 1, 1990?
- (3) What was the date of each report or paper?
- (4) What were the prisoner muster protections contained in each report or paper?
- (5) How many consultants/experts have been employed or engaged to estimate prisoner muster protections?
- (6) What consultants/experts have been engaged?
- (7) When were they engaged?
- (8) How many reports or papers were received?
- (9) What was the date of each report or paper?
- (10) What was the prisoner muster protection on each report or paper?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Four major reports were internally prepared and four were externally commissioned.
 - (a) Internal reports were:

Submission to the Interdepartmental Working Group to Examine Prison Accommodation Requirements - 27 March 1992.

Analysis of State Prison Musters – Causes of Increased Musters and Strategies Aimed at Reducing Musters and Providing Sufficient Prison Accommodation in the Short and Long Term. Strategic and Specialist Services Division, Ministry of Justice —November 1993.

Custody Plan – Offender Management Division – Ministry of Justice – July 1996.

Future Directions Report – “Towards Integration” – Policy Projects and Programs Directorate. Offender Management Division, Ministry of Justice – November 1996.
 - (b) External reports were:

Value Systems Pty Ltd – Department of Corrective Services, WA – Prison Accommodation Requirements – Strategic Value Management Study – May 1992.

Data Analysis Australia – Forecasting Demand for Adult Prisons in Western Australia

First Report January 1995.

Second Report – November 1998.

Australasian Correctional Services – Assessment of Existing Prison Infrastructure and the Projection of Future Needs – Volumes One and Two – 29 November 1996.

Jacoby Consulting Group Pty Ltd - Prisons 2005 – Recommendations for the Improved Operations of the Offender Management Unit – July 1998.
- (3) Answered by (2).
- (4) The muster projections in each of the reports are based on assumptions and were considered by the consultants to be the best possible statistical analysis based on the information available. Volumes 1 and 2 of the Australasian Correctional Services Report were tabled in the Legislative Council on 1 July 1998. The other three reports mentioned in (2)(b) have been tabled.
- (5)-(6) Answered in (2), (3) and (4) above.
- (7)-(10) Answered in (4) above.

SCHOOLS, JANE BROOK

1391. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Has a decision been made by the Government as to when a primary school will be constructed in Jane Brook?

- (2) If yes, which year will construction begin?
- (3) What is the estimated cost to construct this school?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1)-(3) No. The Education Department is currently discussing the proposal for a "school in houses" development for 2001. Costings for "schools in houses" are difficult to determine; however, as a guide, current costs are around \$10 000 per annum per house.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, RM plc CONTRACTS

1392. Hon E.R.J. DERMER to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Has the Education Department of WA executed any contract/s with RM plc?
- (2) If yes, when were such contract/s executed?
- (3) What was the term of each of these contract/s?
- (4) What is the basis of payments to be made by the Education Department of WA to RM plc within the conditions of these contract/s?
- (5) Do contractual obligations between the Education Department of WA and RM plc preclude Government schools in Western Australia from purchasing software from companies other than RM plc?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) Yes, the Education Department of WA has signed a contract with RM Australasia Pty Ltd, a fully owned subsidiary of the British company, RM plc for the provision of a fully integrated school information software solution.
- (2) The contract was signed between the Education Department of WA and RM Australasia Pty Ltd, on 17 March 1999.
- (3) The contract covered the acquisition of their integrated Key Solutions software package and the support of the software for a four-year period, with the option to extend the contract for two-years.
- (4) The Education Department of WA provided a contract signing payment to RM Australasia Pty Ltd. Quarterly payments will be made during the period of the contract.
- (5) No, the Education Department of WA has not mandated use of RM Australasia Pty Ltd's the Key Solutions software package.

PRISONS, CASUARINA

1395. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Justice:

In relation to the Smith Report and the recent riot at Casuarina Prison -

- (1) Have the contents of the draft Smith report been referred to Crown Law for advice?
- (2) If so, what was that advice?
- (3) When is it expected that the report will be released?
- (4) If the delay has not been in relation to(1) above, what has been the reason for the delay?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) When Parliament resumes or as soon thereafter as a Government response has been prepared.
- (4) Mr Smith requested an extension of time to enable him to complete his research.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, EXPENDITURE ON CONSULTANTS

1411. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Justice:

With regard to the \$86m worth of purchases made by the Justice Department through the State Supply Commission (SSC) in 1996/97 (see Figure 3, SSC Annual Report 1997/98, page 29), how much of this figure was spent on consultants?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

\$100,532.

POLICE, CORAL BAY

1414. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Police:

- (1) In view of the increased police workload in the Exmouth region resulting from impact of Cyclone Vance, and in

view of the anticipated numbers of visitors to the Ningaloo area and to Coral Bay in particular, and with the approach of the Easter and school holidays, will a police station facility be established at Coral Bay?

(2) If not, why not?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

(1) A Mobile Policing Facility (caravan) has been established at Coral Bay and is currently manned by two Police Officers. This will continue through Easter and the school holidays until 17 April 1999.

(2) Not applicable.

PASTORAL STATIONS, CYCLONE DAMAGE

1416. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

(1) Will the Minister for Primary Industry table in the House details of known damage to the pastoral stations in the path of Cyclone Vance?

(2) What steps are being put in place to attend to the needs of these station families?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

(1) Yes. A report outlining the damage assessment is tabled for consideration by the House. [See paper No 1013.]

(2) AGWEST has delivered an excellent response to this disaster. Assistance was delivered in 4 phases.

- * Emergency household and station support
- * Emergency production and animal support
- * Implementation of a pastoral water supply recovery scheme
- * Implementation of a medium to long-term business recovery scheme.

Additionally, AGWEST provided up to 12 officers working on this response for a period of 2 weeks. Officers also volunteered their assistance over the Easter holidays to assist stations.

I congratulate AGWEST for the manner in which they have responded.

CARNARVON, FLOODING

1417. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

(1) Has it been possible to make an accurate assessment of the recent cyclone Vance related rainfall in the Gascoyne river catchment area and the anticipated flood impact on the growers in the Carnarvon area?

(2) If not, why not?

(3) What advice is being given to the growers in Carnarvon in reference to any anticipated flooding?

(4) On current estimates, when will the Gascoyne River peak in the Carnarvon township area?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I provide the following information as a summary to date.

(1)-(4) Yes. Agriculture Western Australia, using data from the Bureau of Meteorology and telephone calls to pastoralists, was able to give an assessment of rainfall in the Gascoyne River catchment of likely flood impacts on Tuesday, 23 March 1999. This was confirmed by the Water and Rivers Commission which issued anticipated flood levels in Carnarvon and a flood warning to the Carnarvon community on that morning. AGWEST briefed Peter Malcolm, the Cyclone Vance Coordinator, on 23 March about the cyclone damage and anticipated flooding, especially in low-lying areas; this information was passed on to growers who attended a meeting to discuss banana storm damage assessment. The river peaked at 6.5 metres on Thursday afternoon, 25 March 1999, at the bridge.

HEALTH ACT NOTICE, PUBLICATION

1422. Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Health:

(1) To whom was the *Health Act 1911, Health Act (Section 334(7)) Notice 1998* dated July 27, 1998 published?

(2) When did such publication take place?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

(1)-(2) The Notice has not been published. A copy was provided to the Executive Director, Medical Services, King Edward Memorial Hospital on 13 August 1998.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, SICK LEAVE

1446. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Justice:

(1) Is the Minister aware that in the 1996/97 financial year, Ministry of Justice employees were absent for an average of 66 sick leave hours per full-time employee (FTE), at an estimated cost of more than \$5.2m?

(2) What action has the Minister taken to remedy this situation?

(3) What were the equivalent sick leave absence figures for 1997/98?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

(1) Yes.

(2) In 1994 during negotiating an industrial agreement, provisions were included which reduced sick leave taken by prison officers. Current negotiations on an EBA include provisions to manage sick leave better. It should be noted that prison officers have an award entitlement of 120 hours per year *ie 10 twelve hour shifts*. Also, the twelve hour shift work pattern tends to distort comparative figures on sick leave.

(3) At this stage, the Ministry's new personnel and payroll system is not able to provide data for 1997-98, as the full reporting capacities of the system are not yet available.

WATER RESOURCES, EXMOUTH-LEARMONTH STRUCTURAL MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

1493. Hon GIZ WATSON to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Water Resources:

With regards to the groundwater resource of the North West Cape Region -

(1) Is the Minister for Water Resources aware that the Exmouth Learmonth (North West Cape) Structural Plan released by the Department of Planning in December 1998 recommended that the level of research associated with the groundwater resource be upgraded to ensure environmental, social and economic objectives are met as soon as possible?

(2) Has this upgrade in the level of research occurred?

(3) If yes, will the Minister give details of the research programme?

(4) If no to (2) above, why not?

(5) If no to (2) above, when will this upgrade occur?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

(1) Yes, the Water and Rivers Commission had considerable involvement in the development of the Exmouth-Learmonth Structure Plan.

(2) Yes, the Commission identified the need for an increased level of water resource management activity in the area early in the development of the Structure Plan.

(3) The Commission has completed a Water Allocation Plan for the Exmouth Peninsula, which reviews the groundwater resources in the area and guides the sharing of water between various needs including that of the environment. The Commission has prepared a draft Water Source Protection Plan that identifies possible threats to the water resources and planning mechanisms to manage these risks. The Commission is also undertaking a Water Resources Efficiency Study which will provide guidance on opportunities for improved water use efficiency at Exmouth. As the largest water user in the area, the Water Corporation is required to increase its groundwater and stygofauna monitoring as a condition of its water abstraction licence.

(4)-(5) Not applicable.

MR MICHAEL MURPHY

1511. Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS to the Attorney General:

(1) Has the Attorney General read written communications addressed to him dated March 11, 1999 and March 4, 1999 from Mr Michael Murphy on behalf of "The Murphy Interest"?

(2) What has the Attorney General done as a result of the receipt of the communications?

(3) What is the Attorney General doing as a result of the receipt of the communications?

(4) What does the Attorney General intend to do as a result of the receipt of the communications?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

(1) Yes.

(2)-(4) I have noted those communications as well as the letter to Mr Michael Murphy dated 2 December 1998 from my office (in response to previous communications from Mr Michael Murphy) which indicated to Mr Murphy that neither the Attorney General nor this office investigates alleged criminal offences (which is a matter for the appropriate authorities, for example the WA Police Service) and that also the preferring of criminal charges is a matter for the relevant prosecution authorities including the WA Police Service and the DPP.

PRISONERS, VIOLENT OFFENDERS TREATMENT PROGRAM

1531. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Justice:

(1) How many prisoners currently have offended at a level consistent with entry requirements to the Violent Offenders Treatment Program?

(2) Since January 1, 1999 how many prisoners have completed the Skills Training Aggression Control Program?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

(1) 110-220.

(2) Since January 1, 1999, 78 prisoners have completed the Skills Training for Aggression Control (STAC) Program.

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP, PANGEA RESOURCES AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

1557. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the Attorney General:

With regard to the proposed international nuclear waste dump proposed for Australia by Pangea Resources Australia Pty Ltd -

(1) Has the Attorney General or any of his staff had any meetings, formal or informal with Pangea or their representatives?

(2) If yes, can the Attorney General advise what was the purpose of that/those meetings?

(3) Was any promotional material left by Pangea or other representative?

(4) Will the Attorney General table any such promotional material presented?

(5) At whose request was/were that/those meetings convened?

(6) Who was in attendance at that/those meetings?

(7) Does the Government support the proposal of establishing an international nuclear waste facility in Australia?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

(1) No.

(2)-(6) Not applicable.

(7) I am not aware of any details on this proposal.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

JAMES POINT PORT, ACCESS

1105. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport:

Today the minister issued a statement that his proposed new port in James Point will have efficient roads and rail access. Does that mean that new or upgraded road or rail links will be developed to serve the port? If so, who will pay for those roads or rail links?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

The road and rail link exists at present. No doubt in future, there will be a need to upgrade the facilities. In fact the rail link is standard gauge and links Western Australia with the eastern States. That will be a tremendous advantage for Western Australians because that link from a seaport will link also to other ports. That land bridge across Australia will be of great benefit. There is a requirement for negotiation over a small area of land that links with the BHP site. The present group is dealing with that.

Hon Tom Stephens: What about the roads?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE: There is a road that does not impinge on any residential area, and that is a great advantage. Roads in the area will be upgraded over time. Money is set aside for that area. For the Cockburn area about \$60m will be available for upgrading roads over the next 10 years.

CENTRAL AREA TRANSIT BUSES, WITHDRAWAL FROM SERVICE

1106. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Minister for Transport:

(1) Have any central area transit buses been withdrawn from service for repairs since the beginning of October 1998?

(2) If so, how many buses have been withdrawn?

(3) What has been the cost of such withdrawals and the cost of effecting the required repairs?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

(1)-(3) No CAT buses have been withdrawn from service except for routine maintenance, the cost of which is provided for within the service contract between the Department of Transport and its service operator. The cost of such

routine maintenance is approximately 20¢ to 30¢ per kilometre. However, Scania is currently reviewing the repairs made when the buses were first withdrawn from service, and the cost of any subsequent repairs indicated by the review are to be borne by Scania.

PERTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, DRAFT MASTER PLAN

1107. Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS to the Minister for Transport:

With regard to the current draft master plan of Westralia Airports Corporation for Perth International Airport which is due for decision this month -

- (1) When did the minister receive a copy?
- (2) What steps did he take to facilitate community consultation?
- (3) What is he doing to make sure that the proposal is not put into effect?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1)-(3) I presume that Hon Nick Griffiths is talking about the plan which relates to the federal scene. Obviously, I have an interest in that. We have done some negotiation with regard to that issue. Off the top of my head, I do not know when I received the plan, if indeed I have received it, so I will need to check.

GORGON GAS PROJECT, ALLOWABLE GREENHOUSE LEVELS

1108. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

- (1)
 - (a) Has the Premier been approached by representatives of the Gorgon partnership seeking his support for an exemption from or an increase in the allowable greenhouse gas levels for the Gorgon gas project?
 - (b) If not, is the Premier aware of approaches to other ministers?
- (2) What response or action has the Premier or his ministers proposed or taken in regard to exempting from or varying Gorgon's greenhouse gas entitlement?
- (3) Has the Premier or any of his ministers raised this issue with the Federal Government?
- (4) What has been the response of the Federal Government?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)
 - (a) In regard to the environmental policy framework for management of greenhouse gases, there are no established "allowable greenhouse gas levels". Given that, there is no opportunity for the State to provide the Gorgon project with an "exemption". There has been no contract between the Gorgon project team and the Premier in regard to specific "exemptions" on greenhouse gas emissions.
 - (b) There have not been any approaches to state ministers to seek "exemptions". However, there has been consultation at ministerial level on general project development issues, including environmental management practices. The most recent contact was a meeting between the Gorgon team and the Minister for Resources Development in February 1999.
- (2)-(4) Not applicable.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES, PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

1109. Hon HELEN HODGSON to the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) On what date was the most recent partnership agreement entered into between state and local governments for the provision of public library services in Western Australia?
- (2) What are the provisions of that agreement in regard to -
 - (a) the percentage of funding to be provided by the State Government;
 - (b) the percentage of funding to be provided by local government; and
 - (c) the new book input rate?
- (3) Does the agreement have an expiry date and, if so, what is that date?
- (4) Has the minister agreed to enter into negotiations for a new agreement?
- (5) If yes to (4) -
 - (a) when will negotiations commence; and
 - (b) what matters will be provided for in the agreement?
- (6) Does the minister intend to recognise in legislation the partnership agreement or the matters to be addressed therein?

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Agreements between state and local governments for the provision of public library services are signed between the Library Board of Western Australia and individual local governments. The most recent agreement relates to the provision of library services to Warburton and was signed on 4 May 1999. There is no overarching partnership agreement covering all local governments.
- (2) (a) The agreements do not specify a percentage of funding to public libraries to be provided by the State Government. Section 6a(i) of the agreement states that -

the financial basis of this Scheme of cooperation is that laid down in the Act under which the expenditure by the Board in the maintenance of the book stock may not exceed the expenditure by the Library Authority . . .

 (b) The agreements do not specify the percentage of funding to public libraries to be provided by local government. Section 6a(i) again refers.
 (c) The agreements do not specify a new book input rate.
- (3) The agreements do not have an expiry date.
- (4) The minister will enter into negotiations for a new framework agreement.
- (5) (a) Negotiations will commence as soon as possible. Unfortunately, the State Librarian is currently on leave, and that is the only thing preventing negotiations from continuing.
 (b) Matters to be provided for in the agreement are still to be negotiated.
- (6) Subject to the above negotiations and the agreement of Parliament to legislation currently before it.

NO-INTEREST LOAN SCHEME**1110. Hon MURIEL PATTERSON to the minister representing the Minister for Family and Children's Services:**

Will the Government's no-interest loan scheme be administered through government agencies that have shopfronts in regional areas or will it be centralised through the metropolitan area?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The new no-interest loan scheme will be administered by a not-for-profit organisation under a service agreement with Family and Children's Services. Following consultations with the non-government sector in the metropolitan area and via Westlink in the country, advertisements regarding requests for proposals were placed on 17 April 1999. The new service will have statewide coverage. That will be achieved by negotiation with the new service provider.

LAMAC, PAYMENT DISPUTE**1111. Hon BOB THOMAS to the minister representing the Minister for Water Resources:**

- (1) Is the company, Lamac, a company which is recognised as the WA Small Business of the Year in 1998, in dispute with the Water Corporation over payment for three contracts, all of which were completed in 1996?
- (2) Have both parties agreed that the dispute will go to arbitration and appointed Mr C.D. Raymond as the arbitrator?
- (3) Has the general manager of the Water Corporation informed Lamac that the Water Corporation will not do business with the company until this dispute has been resolved?
- (4) If yes to (3), will the minister inform the House why a company which has successfully performed a number of projects for the Government can be barred from bidding for current contracts because it is disputing payment on a former contract?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(3) Yes.
- (4) As detailed in the Water Corporation's general conditions of tender, the corporation reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, to refuse to consider or to accept any tender. The corporation may, without giving reasons, reject or refuse any tender or refuse to undertake any business of any nature -

Hon Ken Travers interjected.

Hon MAX EVANS: Does the member wish to answer the question? It continues -

- with a tenderer with whom the corporation is involved in a dispute of any nature, whether or not litigation or arbitral proceedings have been commenced.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, INDUSTRY TRAINING PLANS

1112. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Employment and Training:

In regard to the submission of industry training plans for the building and construction industry to the State Training Board which were required by contract to be submitted by 30 April 1999 -

- (1) Were all the submissions received by the deadline of 30 April 1999?
- (2) If not, which organisations have not submitted their proposed plans?
- (3) Has the Western Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry applied for an extension of time?
- (4) If yes, what was the reason given by the CCI for requiring the extension and has it been approved?
- (5) What was the approved extension of time?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

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

FLETCHER, MR IAN

1113. Hon GIZ WATSON to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

With reference to the response to a question without notice of 20 April 1999 regarding Mr Ian Fletcher's involvement with Pangea Resources Australia -

- (1) What was the date and location that the Premier's former chief-of-staff, Mr Ian Fletcher, was briefed formally by Pangea prior to the meeting on 14 November 1997?
- (2) Who was in attendance at that meeting?
- (3) Who requested that meeting?
- (4) How many times and on what dates did Mr Ian Fletcher have any formal or informal contact with representatives of Pangea while employed by the Government?
- (5) Were any notes taken by Mr Ian Fletcher, relative to those contacts?
- (6) If so, will the Premier table them?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) On 6 November 1997 in Canberra. Mr Fletcher was in attendance at a Premiers Conference in Canberra.
- (2) Mr Ian Fletcher, Mr Jim Voss.
- (3) Pangea Resources.
- (4) Refer to response to question 1062 of 20 April 1999.
- (5) No.
- (6) Not applicable.

TRANSPERTH CIRCLE ROUTE

1114. Hon RAY HALLIGAN to the Minister for Transport:

The Transperth circle route was introduced on 22 February 1999. Has it achieved expected patronage levels?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The circle route was expected to carry around 30 000 people each week. The experience so far has been -

- Week 1: 41 764 or 39 per cent higher than expectations.
- Week 2: 38 808 or 29 per cent higher than expectations.
- Week 3: 44 800 or 49 per cent higher than expectations.

More recently, in the week prior to Easter the service carried 46 000 passengers and is now consistently achieving between 42 000 and 46 000 passengers a week.

Hon Tom Stephens: You had better sack your forecasters.

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE: It is a wonderful achievement. These are remarkable results, showing that on average 8 000 people use this innovative new service each weekday. The Department of Transport's expectation is that this service will continue to exhibit strong growth in the future.

STATE TAXES, CHARGES AND FEES

1115. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Finance:

Will the minister table the percentage increase in revenue from each of the following state taxes, charges and fees since 1992-93 -

- (a) land tax;
- (b) payroll tax;
- (c) financial institutions duty;
- (d) debits tax;
- (e) stamp duty on insurance policies, mortgages, marketable securities, cheques, orders, procurations and so on;
- (f) stamp duty - conveyances and transfers;
- (g) stamp duty on vehicle licences;
- (h) gambling tax; and
- (i) vehicle registrations - licences?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The required information has been prepared in the form of a schedule. The estimates have not been adjusted for tax rate or base changes since 1992-93. Land tax was \$128.5m in 1992-93. At that time there were single date valuations. Had we kept the same scale, revenue would have gone from \$128.5m to \$209m on the new valuation of land. Therefore, we changed the scales and dropped them back. Payroll tax has gone up as a result of increased employment. We have dropped the rate back from 6 per cent to 5.85 per cent. Financial institutions duty has gone up with increased business. We doubled debits tax about two years ago; that is why there is such a big increase. The conveying of properties income has gone up as a result of the turnover in properties and the increase in values which has brought an increase in stamp duty. The schedule refers to the Lotteries Commission surpluses. Turnover has increased from \$300m a year to over \$400m. The inclusion of the Lotteries Commission in the schedule is largely hypothetical because it does not result in revenue to the Government. Some \$126.5m will be distributed this year. Some 16 per cent of the turnover, which is \$64m, goes to hospitals, 2 per cent to sport, 2 per cent to art, some to the Festival of Perth, and so on. All of the balance goes to the community. That makes up that \$126.5m. Motor vehicle licence fees were increased last year. I table the schedule.

[See paper No 1009.]

PEEL HEALTH CAMPUS, LEASE AGREEMENT

1116. Hon J.A. COWDELL to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) Has a lease agreement between Health Solutions (WA) Pty Ltd and the State Government for the land occupied by the Peel Health Campus been signed?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If yes, will the minister table a copy of the lease?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No.
- (2) The parties are still in negotiation.
- (3) Not applicable.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RATES, TOWN OF VINCENT

1117. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the minister representing the Minister for Water Resources:

- (1) When will the minister or the Water Corporation pay over \$90 000 in local government rates already collected from one of the corporation's private commercial tenants at its Leederville headquarters to the Town of Vincent?
- (2) How many other local authorities are being denied their lawful rates from commercial operations by the Water Corporation collecting those rates and sending them to Treasury instead of the lawful, local council?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The original question is hardly well worded when it refers to the minister and the chairman, because neither of those people pays the cheques over in any event.

- (1) No such moneys have been collected.
- (2) None. In accordance with its legislative obligations, the Water Corporation pays local government rates equivalents to the Treasury.

GOLDFIELDS LEASES, EXEMPTIONS

1118. Hon TOM HELM to the Minister for Mines:

- (1) Further to the answer to question on notice 986, will the minister confirm that he granted 1 167 exemptions to leases, amounting to a value of \$28.8m, held by Sons of Gwalia and associated companies in the goldfields?
- (2) If yes, will the minister table his reasons for these exemptions?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) I can confirm that the 1 167 exemptions referred to in the report provided as attachment A to my answer to question on notice 986 were granted since 1991 by successive Ministers for Mines. They were not all granted by me.
- (2) Section 102 of the Mining Act 1978 provides that exemption may be granted for the following reasons -
 - (a) that the title to the mining tenement is in dispute;
 - (b) that time is required to evaluate work done on the mining tenement, to plan future exploration or mining or raise capital therefor;
 - (c) that time is required to purchase and erect plant and machinery;
 - (d) that the ground the subject of the mining tenement is for any sufficient reason unworkable;
 - (e) that the ground the subject of the mining tenement contains a mineral deposit which is uneconomic but which may reasonably be expected to become economic in the future or that at the relevant time, economic or marketing problems are such as not to make the mining operations viable;
 - (f) that the ground the subject of the mining tenement contains mineral ore which is required to sustain the future operations of an existing or proposed mining operation;
 - (g) that political, environmental or other difficulties in obtaining requisite approvals prevent mining or restrict it in a manner that is, or subject to conditions that are, for the time being, impracticable; or
 - (h) that the mining tenement is comprised within a project involving more than one tenement, and that expenditure on a tenement or tenements comprised in that project would have been such as to satisfy the expenditure requirements in relation to the tenement concerned had that aggregate expenditure been apportioned in respect of the various tenements comprised in the project,

and also for any other reason which may be prescribed or which in the opinion of the minister is sufficient to justify such exemption.

In order to table the reasons for these exemptions, it would be necessary to research each individual tenement file to ascertain the particular ground or grounds for each of the 1 167 exemptions. I am not prepared to authorise the significant expenditure of resources that would be required to carry out this task. I do, however, invite the member to direct to me any concerns he may have about any particular tenements for which exemptions have been granted.

TEACHERS, VACANCIES IN COUNTRY AREAS

1119. Hon TOM STEPHENS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Will the minister table in the House today a list of all the teaching positions in country areas across Western Australia that remain unfilled?
- (2) If not, why not?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(2) As at 3.00 pm on 3 May 1999 there were 9.5 full-time equivalent vacancies in country primary positions, eight FTE vacancies in country secondary positions and 3.4 languages other than English positions across both primary and secondary country schools.

Rather than reading the document, I seek leave to table the list showing the vacancies by district.

Leave granted. [See paper No 1010.]

DRUGS, BULLETIN ON OPIOID DEATHS

1120. Hon NORM KELLY to the minister representing the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

- (1) When did the minister receive the draft version of the Task Force on Drug Abuse's bulletin on opioid deaths for 1997?
- (2) Given that similar reports for the years 1995 and 1996 were publicly released within eight months of the year's end, can the minister explain why there has been such a lengthy 16 month wait for 1997 statistics to be released?

(3) Is the minister now able to table the details of this report?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

The Minister for Family and Children's Services has given me this reply.

- (1) I have not received the draft version of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office bulletin on opioid deaths for 1997. I am advised that the draft is being finalised by the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.
- (2) The 1997 bulletin has taken longer than the previous two years because the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office wants to reconcile the different estimates of the number of heroin-related overdose deaths in Western Australia provided by the police, being 83, the WA coronial database which it manages, being 80, and the Australian Bureau of Statistics as recently published, being 70. All these figures are in the public domain.
- (3) The report will be published when this work is completed.

I note that most of the information contained in the bulletin is in the public domain. Most recently a summary of the key information emerging from the study was published in the *Sunday Times* on 21 March 1999.

I seek leave to table the extract from the article.

Leave granted.

[See paper No 1011.]

SCHOOL BUSES, SEAT BELTS

1121. Hon CHERYL DAVENPORT to the Minister for Transport:

About six months ago the minister told the House that he was considering the issue of compulsory seat belts for school buses and I ask -

- (1) What progress has been made on the issue?
- (2) In particular, will there be a trial and, if so, when will it start?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes, we are considering a trial for seat belts. I received the report from Barbara Morrell recently and we are considering its recommendations. It is envisaged that a trial will take place in the near future, but the date of its commencement has not yet been established.

BUS SERVICE, GATEWAYS SHOPPING CENTRE

1122. Hon SIMON O'BRIEN to the Minister for Transport:

Can the minister advise what bus service is servicing the new Gateways Shopping Centre in Success?

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Let us get one thing clear. Every member of this House is entitled to ask a question provided the question is within the terms of the standing orders. I am surprised at times that members interject when a question is asked. Apart from wasting the time of this place, it seems to be an attempt to disenfranchise the member of his rights.

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

A new 183 bus service to Perth via the Freeway and Murdoch Park 'n' Ride, will begin running on Sunday, 21 March from the new Park 'n' Ride station at Gateways Shopping Centre in Success. The service will run at 15 minute intervals in the morning peak time and every 20 minutes in the afternoon peak. Routes 140, 190 and 196 will also have the new bus station as their terminals and a 199 service will provide a connection between Waters Avenue and the shopping centre.

MINING, STATE FOREST No 58

1123. Hon CHRISTINE SHARP to the Minister for Mines:

Can the minister please confirm whether Cable Sands received ministerial consent under section 24(6) of the Mining Act 1978, prior to the grant for mining in M70/363 being issued on 21 August 1991?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

Yes. Ministerial consent to mine on State Forest No 58 was given on 15 August 1991.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SKILLS CRISIS, FUNDING OF PROGRAM

1124. Hon E.R.J. DERMER to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce and Trade:

- (1) Is the Minister for Commerce and Trade or the Office of Information and Communications aware of the reported intention of the IT & T Industry Skills Task Force to invite government to subscribe financially to a major program of work aimed at averting a looming IT & T skills crisis in Australia?
- (2) Does the Minister for Commerce and Trade intend that the Western Australian Government should respond positively to such an invitation?
- (3) Has the Minister for Commerce and Trade discussed this program and invitation for government to subscribe financially to this program with the IT & T Industry Skills Task Force or any member of that task force?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Office of Information and Communications in the Department of Commerce and Trade has been working with the IT & T Industry Skills Task Force, a national peak body of industry and industry associations, working closely with the Australian Information Economy Advisory Council, on this issue. The task force program of work is -
 - a survey of IT & T companies and major corporate users of IT & T to determine the skills and demand;
 - a business plan for a more efficient IT & T education workplace;
 - community awareness raising.

It is understood that membership applications are being sent to companies, organisations and Governments with a request for a \$5 000 subscription to the work of the task force.

- (2) The request will be considered positively when it is formally received.
- (3) At this stage, liaison with the task force has been via the Department of Commerce and Trade.

CENTRAL PARK TOWER SALE, MINUTES OF MEETINGS

1125. Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS to the Minister for Finance:

- (1) With regard to the Auditor General's report on the proposed sale of the Central Park tower by the Government Employees Superannuation Board, did the minister note the finding that no minutes of meetings between representatives of the board and tenderers were on file?
- (2) When did the minister find out that fact?
- (3) What did he do about it?
- (4) Is this a common practice in the agencies for which the minister is responsible?

Hon MAX EVANS replied:

It was a generalised comment. The board runs under a statutory authority with the power to run its own meetings. The Auditor General made that statement - it can be a statement of fact.

I keep wondering why the member opposite wants to raise this matter. If the Government sold the building for nothing, it could not have lost more money than that lost on it by the previous Labor Government! It was a sale of \$275m as against a sale of nothing. The minutes of the meeting are not very relevant to the entire issue. As the Auditor General said, it was the normal way to go about this type of business in the private sector, although probably not in the government sector. I see no problems. The board did not go ahead with the deal because of the future tax problems on closed trusts.

NAVAL BASE PORT PROPOSAL

1126. Hon JOHN HALDEN to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How much money to date has been spent on the proposal to have a new port at Naval Base?
- (2) What is the anticipated cost of the new port at Naval Base?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The costs incurred to date have been for tender process managers, probity auditors, legal advisers, engineering consultants and miscellaneous printing costs. In total, these costs are for 1997-98, \$130 233; and the year 1998-99 to date, \$131 443.
- (2) The new port facilities are, at the cost of the private proponent, estimated for stage 1 at \$50m.

PANGEA RESOURCES AUSTRALIA, CONSULTATION

1127. Hon GIZ WATSON to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

Some notice of this question has been given. In respect of the consultation between the State Government and the company Pangea on 14 November 1997 in relation to a nuclear waste facility, I ask -

- (1) Was the Deputy Premier the Acting Premier at the time?
- (2) In what capacity did the Deputy Premier meet with Mr James Voss?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

- (1) No.
 - (2) As Deputy Premier.
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