



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Debates

(HANSARD)

THIRTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT
FIRST SESSION
1997

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 14 October 1997

Legislative Assembly

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

PETITION - EDUCATION BILL

MR HOUSE (Stirling - Minister for Primary Industry) [2.04 pm]: I present the following petition -

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

We the undersigned, ask that the Education Bill 1997 be amended to give recognition to the rights of parents in relation to exemption from particular courses of study equal to exemption provided for religious education and to provide the right to alternative methods of education that are not bound by law to a state/national curriculum. We believe the present Education Act 1928-81 adequately provides for those rights.

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

The petition bears 19 signatures and I certify that it conforms to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly.

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

[See petition No 94.]

PETITION - POLICE ACADEMY

Location at Joondalup

MR BAKER (Joondalup) [2.05 pm]: I present the following petition -

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

We, the undersigned, hereby respectfully urge that the proposed new WA Police Academy be located in Joondalup. Joondalup has excellent tertiary education, health, transport, retail business, civic and recreational facilities and such relocation would also greatly improve local employment prospects, particularly for our youth.

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

The petition bears 64 signatures and I certify that it conforms to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly.

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

[See petition No 95.]

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Twenty-sixth Report - Road Traffic (Amendment to Fees) Regulations

MR MacLEAN (Wanneroo) [2.13 pm]: I present the twenty-sixth report of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation on Road Traffic (Amendment to Fees) Regulations 1997. I move -

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

The committee has had cause to consider increases in the fees for drivers' licences and the recording fee attached to vehicle licences in August. Drivers' licence fees were then increased from \$26 to \$29 for a one year licence and from \$90 to \$92 for a five year licence. The recording fee was increased from \$12.50 to \$14. The committee on that occasion formed the view that the relevant regulations were beyond the power delegated to the Governor in Executive Council by the Road Traffic Act 1974 and in its twenty-fifth report recommended to the Parliament that they be disallowed. The Legislative Council disallowed these regulations on 26 August 1997. Drivers' licence fees and the recording fee are again the subject of inquiry by the committee as a result of further increases. These further increases took effect from 1 July 1997 before the Legislative Council had considered and disallowed the previous increases.

The committee has now had cause to consider regulations 5(d) and (e) and 7(e) of the Road Traffic (Amendment to Fees) Regulations 1997. These regulations were also subject to a disallowance motion in the Legislative Council. Regulations 5(d) and (e) of those regulations increase the fees payable for the issuing of a driver's licence from \$29 to \$30 for a one year licence and from \$92 to \$95 for a five year driver's licence. On the basis of information supplied to the committee by the Department of Transport it was determined that these increases relate to a consumer price index of 2.5 per cent rounded to the nearest whole number.

Regulation 7(e) of those road traffic regulations increases the recording fee payable for vehicle licences from \$14 to \$14.70. On the basis of information supplied by the Department of Transport to the committee it was determined that 40¢ of this increase is to meet the cost incurred for the introduction of a credit card facility for licence payments with the balance being a CPI related increase rounded to the nearest whole number. As at 1 July 1997, when the increased fee became effective, a credit card payment facility was not available. The latest information supplied by the department is that this facility will be available in November 1997.

The committee is concerned that the department is continuing to render the increased fees irrespective of the parliamentary disallowance of the earlier increases. The department advised the committee that if an individual paid for a driver's licence today he would be charged either \$30 for a one year licence or \$95 for a five year licence and a vehicle licence would include the recording fee set at \$14.70.

The other concern of the committee rests with the increase of the recording fee under regulation 7(e) based on the provision of a credit card facility that is not yet available. The same concern about the previous increases arises with this increase as the impost appears to fulfil all the accepted attributes of a tax. The committee's legal advice on this regulation was that such an impost equates to a tax and nothing in the Road Traffic Act 1974 appears to authorise the imposition of a recording fee charge that amounts to a tax. For those reasons the impost in question is ultra vires or beyond the power contained in the Act to impose by way of regulation.

Despite the above concerns the committee does not recommend that these regulations be disallowed. The Minister has advised the committee that Cabinet approval has been obtained to amend the Road Traffic Act 1974 to provide the Department of Transport with the power to levy fees and charges to cover the administration costs of vehicle and driver registration and associated costs of providing services and infrastructure.

The Minister indicated his intention to provide a legislative solution to the problem that will remove any ambiguity about the power of the department to set fees and charges. Therefore the committee has resolved to seek leave to withdraw the motion of disallowance.

Question put and passed.

[See paper No 762.]

STATEMENT - SPEAKER

Tabling of Video and Audio Tapes

THE SPEAKER (Mr Strickland): Members will note that in answer to question on notice 2227 from the member for Nollamara the Minister for Employment and Training tabled audio and video tapes of certain advertisements. Standing orders refer only to accounts and papers being laid on the Table of the House. I consider that it is appropriate to allow that term to also cover audio and video tapes. Should anyone wish to hear or see the tapes the Bills and Papers Office will make arrangements for that.

Standing Order No 233 provides that members of both Houses and the public may take copies or extracts from papers, but the papers shall not be removed from the precincts of the House. Should someone ask to take a copy of these or subsequent tapes, the Bills and Papers Office will meet that request in the most appropriate way, which may include asking the person making the request - if not a member of Parliament - to supply blank tapes.

STATEMENT - MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Report of the Task Force on Passive Smoking

MR PRINCE (Albany - Minister for Health) [2.20 pm]: Mr Speaker, a comprehensive report recommending changes towards smoking in Western Australia's public places has been released for public comment today.

The task force, under Chairman Hon Ian Taylor, has completed what has been a difficult but detailed examination of passive smoking in public areas in this State. It is now the intention of this Government to canvass the views of the Western Australian public on passive smoking before making any legislative changes. Based on growing community concern about the effects of passive smoking in public places and the need for restrictions, the task force examined a range of strategies for minimising exposure to tobacco smoke.

A number of recommendations have been made by the task force and the chairman, and we are now seeking as much comment from the public and business groups as possible before final decisions are made. The recommendations include, but are not limited to -

the introduction of a smoke free area in all public houses, except bars, where children have legal access from 1 August 1998;

dining rooms and places where a meal is consumed at a dining table, without bars, from 1 August 1998, be smoke free;

the introduction from 1 August 1999 of a smoke free area in all indoor bars adjoining dining areas, except for those hotels, taverns and clubs - such as in small country towns - which have only one bar adjoining an eating area. In those cases, smoking would be permitted at the bar, provided adequate ventilation is provided;

also by 1 August 1999 at least 50 per cent of all enclosed areas in cabarets and nightclubs be smoke free and adequate ventilation provided;

that Burswood Casino be required to increase the size of its non smoking area to at least 50 per cent of its gaming floor area within two years and to provide a detailed protection proposal for employees by 1 August next year.

The task force also recommended that any new legislation be preceded and accompanied by an education campaign informing owners and managers of relevant public places of their legal requirements, and to explain to members of the public the reasons for the changes. The Government is concerned about the effects of passive smoking in our community but before any final decision is made, it is important that the public has its say.

The task force research shows the majority of people who go out to eat and drink would prefer to do so in a smoke free environment and two-thirds or 68 per cent of respondents anticipated that the hospitality industry would be smoke free within five years.

I congratulate the task force for the work it has carried out. The task force included representatives from the hospitality, hotels, retail and catering industries, the medical fraternity, the Health Department of WA, WorkSafe Western Australia and the Tourism Council of Australia.

Public submissions on the task force report will close on 31 January 1998 and I urge all Western Australians to have their say. If Western Australia was to accept the recommendations made by the task force, it would lead the rest of the nation in managing a very sensitive community issue of passive smoking in public areas of this State. I table the report.

[See papers Nos 763A and B.]

STATEMENT - MINISTER FOR POLICE

Firearms Buyback

MR DAY (Darling Range - Minister for Police) [2.23 pm]: The national firearms buyback scheme concluded at midnight on Tuesday, 30 September 1997 and I take this opportunity to inform the House of the outcome of the year long buyback scheme.

In Western Australia 50 804 firearms were handed in, resulting in approximately \$18m being paid in compensation. I am confident that the firearms buyback scheme has been a great success in Western Australia. Initially the Police Service estimated the number of firearms likely to be affected by the buyback scheme to be approximately 40 000. The Police Service received 10 000 more firearms than expected in Western Australia.

Included in the firearms handed in were approximately 2 100 unlicensed firearms. The owners have taken advantage of the amnesty running concurrently with the buyback to rid themselves of the burden and danger of unlicensed firearms. I believe a significant yet understated achievement of this scheme is that it has raised the community's awareness of firearms. This is the case not only for non-firearm owners. I believe many firearm owners have decided that, after many years of keeping a firearm which might not have been licensed, in a cupboard or under the bed, they do not need the firearm any more. Anecdotal evidence suggests that more than a few owners were encouraged by their partner to dispose of the firearm, particularly given the financial incentive. It is a significant achievement to have reduced the number of unlicensed firearms.

Also included in the firearms destroyed by police were approximately 400 military style centre fire firearms. These high powered weapons of war have no place in the hands of civilian firearm owners and the scheme has successfully

removed these firearms from the community. The success of the scheme is due to two very important factors: One is the very sensible and patient attitude displayed by the firearm owners of Western Australia during the past twelve months.

I acknowledge the attitude of members of the firearm owning public who have complied with the buyback scheme and I commend them for their cooperation. It should be noted that the scheme was never intended to deprive firearm owners of their firearms so long as they could meet the new genuine reason and genuine need criteria agreed as stated in the legislation. This process now continues as legitimate firearm owners apply for retention of category C firearms for farming and other purposes.

I acknowledge also the tireless efforts of WA Police Service personnel throughout the State. The scheme has been ably managed from the start by Superintendent Steve Robbins of the specialist support services section and he has been supported by experts at the firearms branch and the ballistics section at Maylands academy. Obviously the hard work of the past in Western Australia on tough gun laws and the registration system paid dividends and made the job far easier than that experienced by some other States. The hard work that was undertaken in Western Australia for many years prior to the national agreements of May 1996 for sensible firearm laws will serve Western Australia well as the nation moves toward uniform firearms controls.

The positive effects of that national agreement are now entrenched in Western Australia's firearms legislation, ensuring safer and more stringent firearms controls. Owners are now required to meet proper storage requirements and demonstrate new criteria to explain their lawful use of a firearm.

I conclude on two points. First, I thank all the people associated with the buyback in Western Australia, whether Police Service officers or firearm owners, for helping to make the scheme successful in Western Australia. I acknowledge the member for Wagin and former Minister for Police for his efforts in progressing the new legislation and the buyback scheme.

Finally, I ask members who through contact with the public are aware or become aware of firearm owners who continue to hold unlicensed firearms and who fear they have missed the opportunity to hand in the firearms to encourage them to take the firearms to their local police station. I understand it is the practice not to prosecute those handing in unlicensed firearms. We are all keen to remove these unwanted firearms from the community and those willing to comply will not be discouraged.

STATEMENT - MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS

Community Relations Strategy "Living in Harmony"

MR BOARD (Murdoch - Minister for Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs) [2.27 pm]: I inform the House of a major new community relations strategy aimed at raising public awareness about the benefits of good community relations. Called Living in Harmony, our three year strategy is aimed at all Western Australians and will have an early focus on priority areas such as youth and schools, and a community awareness campaign. Living in Harmony will be the catalyst for many new initiatives between community groups, state and federal government agencies, local government, schools and the business sector, all working together to strengthen community relations. The Office of Multicultural Interests will oversee the strategy, maintaining a database of innovative projects so that great ideas are recorded and can be adapted for future use by other groups and other communities.

All Western Australians can be proud of our multicultural society. We have a quality of life that is the envy of people around the world and we have a reputation for being tolerant and easygoing. In fact, many people are looking for ways to express their appreciation of being part of our culturally rich community. This strategy encourages the development of community and private sector initiatives in which the State Government can participate or which it can support.

Living in Harmony will give individuals and organisations the opportunity to make a difference in an easy and effective way. A simple way in which groups and organisations, particularly those from the business sector, can be involved is to endorse the strategy by displaying specially designed Living in Harmony charters.

Another initiative is for all state government agencies to be more responsive to the cultural diversity of their clients and work force. The Living in Harmony strategy was developed in consultation with ethnic community groups, peak bodies and both government and non-government service providers. It consists of five specific components, each comprising specific initiatives. Some of those initiatives include a media publicity campaign promoting good community relations, an anti-racism policy in Western Australian government schools, and the establishment of a multicultural and citizenship advisory council.

Living in Harmony is a whole of government approach to coordinating the many community relations initiatives and activities undertaken throughout Western Australia. It is the biggest project undertaken in this area and honours a

commitment given by this Government when it launched Western Australia's multicultural policy, WA One, in March 1995.

As a Government, we acknowledge the basic rights, freedoms and responsibilities of all people and recognise the important contribution people of diverse backgrounds have made, and will continue to make, both socially and economically, to our State. I congratulate those who have worked tirelessly to complete this strategy and commend it to all members, all government agencies and the entire community of Western Australia.

[Questions without notice taken.]

RESERVES BILL

Second Reading

Resumed from 18 September.

DR EDWARDS (Maylands) [3.08 pm]: On behalf of the Opposition I will make a few comments on the Reserves Bill. It is pleasant to be debating this Bill during daylight hours. My experience is that often Reserves Bills are pushed to the end of the Notice Paper and we debate them in December at three o'clock in the morning. I thank the Minister for giving the Opposition the opportunity in 1997 of debating this Reserves Bill during daylight hours.

Under section 31(1)(a) of the Land Act 1933 an Act of Parliament is necessary to amend A class reserves. With this Reserves Bill I will debate those clauses which propose that A class reserves be amended.

Many of these changes are quite straightforward; they are administrative in nature or are to do with practical land management. For that reason the Opposition will support the Bill, but will point out one clause with which it has difficulties.

I will not comment on the first four clauses because they are descriptive of what all Reserves Bills do. The first substantive clause is clause 5 which deals with reserve No 2682, located around Mt Clarence in the Town of Albany. The purpose of this clause is to reduce the size of the public park by 2 521 square metres, and to redescribe the reserve that adjoins it. The Opposition is pleased about the reasons given for this change, because it is to accommodate the expansion of Special Broadcasting Service television. I am sure others members have heard comments by people living in rural areas that they would like to receive SBS television programs, and I know it is difficult in some areas to get SBS reception. I understand this amendment has the support of the Town of Albany and local organisations. I am not clear about the native title ramifications so possibly the Minister will comment on those in his response.

The second reserve on which I shall comment is located in the Shire of Brookton. This reserve was originally vested in the Minister for Water Resources for the purpose of "water". It has been determined by the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority that there are conservation values on this reserve, and its reserve purpose will be changed to "conservation of flora and fauna and water". There are two things to be said about the change. First, it shows that, although an area is quite small - in this case 3.7 hectares - it can still be valuable from a conservation point of view. That is an interesting lesson to be learnt from this Reserves Bill. Often environmentalists and conservationists are told that certain land is too small to be significant, but on this occasion a small area has been determined as valuable and its zoning will be changed to reflect that. The second point is that I understand there is a well in the western corner of the reserve. Therefore, although the conservation status is being recognised, access to water will continue to be available for local farmers who sometimes use that well in times of drought. For that reason it will be conserved not only for flora and fauna but also for water. The Opposition understands the Water Corporation, the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Shire of Brookton all agree on this proposal, and local farmers are sufficiently happy about their access to the water when they need it that they will also support this change.

Clause 7 relates to a change in the Porongurup National Park, which was proclaimed in 1925. It is a very old park and it is held in high regard by local people. It is a significant size - approximately 2 500 hectares. Clause 7 covers a few changes but they can be summarised as follows. Part of the reserve under the control of the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority needs to be closed so that a dam in an enclave in the middle of the reserve can be repaired. The dam is 40 years old and it has been assessed by the Water Corporation as unsafe. There are valid reasons for repairing the dam. Obviously the dam is still needed, given the decision to repair it. While repairs are ongoing access must be given to it, and part of the change is to provide that access. A number of other changes will be made to the national park, and I assume the opportunity is being taken under the Reserves Bill to refine the boundaries. I know that part of the amendment is to include five separate pieces of land in the national park to rationalise the park boundaries. One is currently a C class reserve, and probably was an old gravel pit. The

Government recently put out a gravel strategy, which is an excellent strategy, and it is pleasing that an area no longer needed for that purpose can be incorporated into a national park to make its boundaries more realistic.

There is some concern by conservationists about this amendment, but the Opposition has been told that where a road is to be closed, when work is finished the road will not be rededicated but will become part of the national park. The clause contains about seven changes, a couple of which are of concern to the conservation movement. However, I understand that on balance they think these changes are positive.

I turn now to clause 8. The changes proposed under this clause will be dear to the hearts of a few members. The clause deals with a reserve in the City of Subiaco, covering the area of Kitchener and Mueller Parks. At the moment the reserve is set aside for the purpose of recreation and part of it is leased to the West Australian Football Commission. I have parked on that reserve, and probably other members have also. There has been a long period of negotiation between the WAFC, the City of Subiaco and government authorities, and all parties have reached agreement to change the vesting of this reserve to allow it to be used for recreation and occasional vehicle parking. Once this change goes through, other changes will be made to C class reserves in the vicinity to improve the parking situation. I know that when major games are played on Subiaco Oval parking causes problems for the local residents. The streets are narrow, and there are already parking restrictions for residents. Anything that can be done to ease the situation is welcome.

Clause 9 covers the Rugged Hills nature reserve located in the Shire of Toodyay. This is an interesting clause, under which land on a particular lot will be ceded to the Crown as a condition of subdivision on a freehold title adjacent to it. The land to be ceded to the Crown has been examined and found to have high conservation value. It will be incorporated in the reserve and vested for the conservation of flora and fauna. The area of land to be ceded is approximately two hectares, and it will increase the area of the reserve to 254 hectares. CALM and the Shire of Toodyay support the proposal, and I understand the Department of Minerals and Energy has raised no objections to these changes.

I turn now to clause 10, the final clause in the Bill, and the one which is most contentious. It relates to reserve No 27575 known as the Neerabup National Park. This national park was created and proclaimed in 1965, so it is relatively new. It is an unusual shape, in that it is long and narrow. Increasingly in the northern suburbs, where it is located, bushland is becoming significant as urbanisation and development encroach. This clause signifies one of the problems faced by a national park of this shape. It has been scrutinised under the System 6 review over the past two years, and recommendations were made that some of the land on the edge of the park be preserved because it has high conservation value. The area around this park has conservation value in certain spots. The concern about this clause is that although only 8 hectares will be excluded from the national park, the national park and surrounding areas face many threats. I will go through some of those threats.

One of the threats is the ground water treatment plant which will remove 8 hectares. It will cover some land from the Neerabup National Park, but also some land designated as System 6 areas. As the city grows, it will be harder to find equivalent land to replace System 6 areas needed for community and public purposes such as ground water treatment plants.

According to a very nice map of the area that was given to me by the local conservation group, threats are also posed to the area by a concrete batching plant, a plan for a water reservoir, a plan to extend the freeway through the western edge of the Neerabup National Park, a plan for an east west road, and a plan by the City of Wanneroo for a golf course. These plans represent significant ecological threats for a national park that is long and thin, because such an area is more likely to be encroached upon and has less physical mass in the centre upon which its conservation values can be built up.

In this case, the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority has agreed to the excision of the land only on the condition that the Water Corporation purchases an equivalent piece of land to the south or east and incorporates it into the national park. The Opposition would prefer the incorporation to take place first. Perhaps the Minister can indicate the contractual obligations that require us to move ahead with this Bill to excise the land before we have been told much about that possible future purchase of land. The people in that area are concerned that the Water Corporation may suddenly find that it does not have the money to purchase the equivalent land and that there will be a delay in incorporating the replacement 8 hectares. The Opposition would prefer to have a firm commitment from the Minister about not only this land exchange but also its timing. We would like that land exchange to be made within the next year so that the time frame is short and the local people can be reassured that the land that will be excised will be replaced.

I have covered all of the clauses in this Reserves Bill, and in conclusion I will comment about one matter that is not dealt with in this Bill; namely, the so-called workers' embassy on the reserve across the road from the Parliament. The Minister has a lot of expertise within his department. I have received a number of briefings from his

departmental staff, who are always very helpful and produce excellent maps and data. The Opposition is sad that some innovation and imagination was not used to bring this matter before the Parliament as an inclusion in this Bill. I am sure it would not have been difficult to give those staff that one extra task so that we could have discussed this matter in daylight hours and enjoyed ourselves.

MR KOBELKE (Nollamara) [3.22 pm]: It has been the standard practice of the Parliament that one Reserves Bill comes into the Parliament each year, usually towards the end of the calendar year. The role of the Reserves Bill is to change the vesting or designation of reserves and other pieces of land. I know that you, Mr Speaker, took a close interest in the Reserves Bill in earlier years because it was required to legalise the closure of many walkways and public access ways in the older suburbs which form part of your electorate and my electorate of Nollamara, at the request of the residents. The Reserves Bill was amended some years ago so that it is now possible to have those walkways or public access ways between houses closed by administrative action. I am aware that the modern planning for suburbs tries to avoid the problems which those public access ways have created.

The purpose of the Reserves Bill has changed with regard to the closure of public access ways, and I am concerned that its purpose will change even further as a result of the Land Administration Bill which is currently before the Parliament, which will provide other mechanisms by which land can be transferred and will give the Minister greater power. Therefore, I do not know whether we will see Reserves Bills in the future; if we do, it is unlikely that we will see them on a regular, annual basis. It is not appropriate to debate that matter at length now, but each year the Reserves Bill has been the means by which members can bring to the Parliament matters that concern their electorate. Last year, or it may have been the year before that, some concerns were drawn to my attention by people in the City of Stirling which I was able to raise during the debate on the Reserves Bill. Members have also been able to use the debate on the Reserves Bill to bring before the Parliament the concerns of interest groups and people who wished to see the environment preserved, and a range of other issues which were not confined to the member's electorate but were very important. I am concerned that these changes may mean that we will no longer have an annual Reserves Bill.

I appreciate that the Minister's reason for wanting to move away from having Reserves Bills is that it is very time consuming waiting for the Parliament to deal with them. The range of consultation with government agencies and local government must be followed by approval from the Cabinet and culminate in a Reserves Bill that is introduced towards the end of the year. A matter that is initiated in the second half of the year may have to wait until the following year before it can find its way into a Reserves Bill and be dealt with. It is necessary to improve the way in which these matters are handled by the Parliament, but we must ensure also that accountability is not watered down in such a way that we cannot properly represent the interests of our constituents with regard to matters which would normally be dealt with in a Reserves Bill.

I will now make some brief comments, as did the member for Maylands, about the fact that the Reserves Bill does not mention the reserve across the road from the Parliament. The reason may be that the Government's policy or position is one of opposition to that site. It is, of course, also possible that the Government will deal with that matter in other ways. It is my understanding that the workers' embassy, known as solidarity park, is situated on two lots: A road reserve, and a piece of land that is vested in the City of Perth. The Reserves Bill can easily deal with two separate land holdings which need to be not only amalgamated in a technical sense but also put into a special category so that people can recognise the importance of a piece of land.

The Reserves Bill generally deals with land that is of a conservation or park nature and contains natural vegetation. Clearly the piece of land across the road from the Parliament at the end of the staff car park was not in its natural state before the unions occupied it, nor did it have any attractive vegetation or other aspect which would endear it to people. However, as a result of the unions' campaign and their enhancement and improvement of that site, it has become an important symbol, and while the Government may find that symbol a bit uncomfortable, it is very important. Symbols such as that should receive special recognition, and the purpose of Reserves Bills is to give special recognition to significant pieces of land.

I honestly believe that the site across the road from Parliament House has taken on such a special significance, and while the Government may wish to take some action against the structures on that site, the significance of that site will not be pushed aside by whatever changes the Government may make. I believe that the Government should be cautious about taking action which was regarded as being over the top or too strong, because that might lead to a resurgence of activity on that site and give it even greater significance than it has already. The Government would make a wise move if it talked to the union movement and gave it an undertaking to preserve the site as a people's park so that the democratic struggle by the unions to uphold what they believe are their rights was recognised.

A monument was put there as a tribute to Mark Allen, a worker who was killed when inspecting a work site. The many other thousands of Western Australians who lost their lives or health in the workplace should also be appropriately recognised by such monuments. Even people who have some problem with the significance of the

construction across the road must acknowledge that it is a vast improvement on the sand patch which existed previously. All that construction and improvement to the site has occurred without any cost to the taxpayer. It would be a very wise move by the Government to reach a compromise so that the site reflects the struggles and achievements of the working men and women of Western Australia. Perhaps that is being too optimistic in the light of the political difficulty for the Government. Nonetheless, at the end of the day, the Government must reach a compromise. It would get out of it more lightly if it were to do it graciously now rather than after a long struggle of trying to remove what is seen as an important symbol to the union movement in this State.

My reading of the first nine clauses of this Bill indicates that they are widely supported without any need to look into conditions or undertakings that go with them. Clause 10 provides that a piece of land equal to the size of Swan location 12520 be added to the Neerabup National Park in return for its excision. I hope the Minister will answer some of my questions on clause 10, the first of which relates to the shape of that area. It might be a matter of contours in the area or the design of the plant that the Water Authority wishes to establish there. Surely it would be neater to place that area along a boundary rather than in the middle of that section of Neerabup National Park.

Perhaps the national park is being used as a buffer area to ameliorate the effects of odour and other unpleasant aspects of a water treatment plant that could impinge on surrounding residential areas. Nonetheless, the outline of the area on the map creates the impression that a very large hole will be made in A class reserve No 27575 by an excision in that form and location.

I have had considerable dealings previously with reserve No 27575, but I will not test the patience of the Minister by delving into them now. We have also had many a debate in this House on that reserve which the Minister may remember. It is the area in which, after appeal to the Minister for Planning, Mr Buckeridge was allowed by the Court Government to build his concrete batching plant.

I have inspected parts of the national park and the area north of Hester Road seems to be a very nice piece of bushland. I am no expert but I enjoyed walking through parts of the park. Although the bushland seems to be in fairly good condition from the road, a few metres into the area south of Hester Road it has been degraded considerably, initially by a limestone quarry and later by the construction of the concrete batching plant.

I am unable to ascertain clearly on the maps with which we were provided where this land has been excised. Is it north or south of Hester Road?

Mr Shave: It is north of Burns Beach Road.

Mr KOBELKE: Part of Burns Beach Road is called Hester Road. If it is north, to someone not skilled in this area, the land appears to be an excellent piece of bushland and is worthy of preservation given it has been designated for some time as Neerabup National Park. The Opposition's concern is that the treatment plant will encroach on good bushland. Will the Minister advise why the Water Authority sees that area as the appropriate site rather than an area that is more degraded?

The old limestone quarry south of Hester Road might be too close to housing. The distance between Wanneroo Road and the freeway reserve is quite short. From the freeway reserve to the nearest house in Clarkson there is an excellent view of the concrete batching plant, which I have viewed on several occasions and which causes great concern to the residents. They clearly would not be impressed with a sewage plant being built within sight of their homes. They would have to put up with odours emanating from it, particularly when it was not running efficiently as occurs with these plants from time to time.

I hope the Government will be much more forthright about the reserve opposite this building. As it is too late for this Reserves Bill to cover it, the Government might deal with it through another means so that it can be preserved and maintained to benefit the people of the State rather than be pushed aside by the Government for political purposes which would be a total waste of an excellent improvement and a wonderful monument to the union movement and the working men and women who have built this State.

MR BROWN (Bassendean) [3.37 pm]: Clause 8 of the Bill deals with reserve No 9337. As I understand the maps and designations of the park, it proposes that what is known as Mueller Park be redesignated from "recreation" to "recreation and occasional vehicle parking". This of course is to facilitate the parking occasionally required at Subiaco Oval. As the member for Maylands quite rightly reported, members who go to football games know that that park is opened for and utilised by patrons of the football.

I am not quite clear about the full meaning of "recreation and occasional parking", given that it is now becoming more important for all of the sporting codes to consider greater utilisation of their facilities, particularly Australian Rules football and therefore facilities such as Subiaco Oval.

Mr Osborne: We could always shift the Dockers.

Mr BROWN: As a member of the Dockers, I am not supportive of moves to shift the club, for other reasons. I am aware of the debate surrounding the shifting of the Dockers. Equally, I am aware that for sound financial reasons the Government takes the view that wherever possible a number of sporting stadiums should adopt multiple usage. Obviously with the funding requirements on the West Australian Football Commission and the upkeep of Subiaco Oval, the Australian Football League would look for opportunities to use that venue whenever the opportunity arose. The use of major stadiums for that purpose is appropriate. However, if the stadium is to be used more frequently, it raises the question: What constitutes "occasional purpose" for the purpose of this change in the legislation?

As I read the legislation - perhaps the Minister can correct me - an occasional purpose is for a season or a short period; an odd day of the week, for example. If over time Subiaco Oval has a greater utilisation rate, I can see that reserve being used increasingly for parking. That poses a couple of interesting questions. One is whether that would constitute occasional usage. The other is that those who have parked on the reserve would know that it is exactly as it is referred to in the newspapers - an oval. Although it is robust enough to deal with the parking of cars perhaps once a week or once a fortnight, and to have a long period in which cars may not be parked there at all, it is not robust enough to deal with constant parking. In winter, when a number of football matches are played there, the grass and turf are cut up in difficult parts of the oval as a result of changing weather patterns and car usage. In time - I do not suggest it will happen next year or in the next five years - it will no longer be feasible to leave the reserve in its current state.

The question then arises: Because the oval has been used for occasional parking and it has developed in different ways and is used by a multiplicity of sports, should we bituminise the car park? The car park would not be an oval with a secondary use as a car park; it would become a car park as its first and only use. I am not talking about this occurring next week or next year; these things all take time. The people who control the stadium seek to maximise the returns for that stadium because the cost of maintaining venues is increasing; therefore, they can put that to one side in their consideration of future projects and car parking needs. This will potentially have some impact on that area.

Near Subiaco Oval is a patch of land that would provide an area for a multistorey car park. It is not situated on any oval. However, the area is not large and any construction would be expensive in the medium term. I raise that matter now, not because it is an issue for immediate concern, but rather to test whether the longer term implications, and what those implications might be, have been considered by the planners. I raise that matter also because unless one casts one's mind forward on these issues, the car park will become exactly that; that is, it will be recognised simply as a car park and not as a reserve, and future planning will occur on the basis that it is a car park and not a reserve. I am keen for the Minister to go on the record this afternoon on this matter so it is clear what is planned.

Another reason I raise this matter is that although I note the City of Subiaco has agreed to this change, residents who live around that oval have strong views about the car parking arrangements. The ideal position would be that such an oval was not located on top of residential houses and units. Subiaco has changed considerably from the suburb it was to the very trendy, upmarket suburb it is now. A number of people who have moved into the area, particularly those who live in close proximity to Subiaco Oval, experience considerable angst from time to time with vehicles ignoring no parking signs and all the other problems that arise when a large number of people descend on a single stadium. Although the residents must contend with that situation, we want to ensure that their concerns, albeit there will not be many of them, are taken into account in any future planning process. What plans are envisaged for that area in the medium term?

The other matter I will raise briefly is the proposal for the Water Corporation to construct a facility in the Neerabup National Park and for additional land to be purchased to make up for some of that area. The briefing notes that are provided with the Bill are very good. They provide clear maps and numbers for lay people who have little understanding of some of these matters. The explanatory notes contain a reference to lines that go in all sorts of directions. Sometimes it is difficult to understand what all of that means if one does not have a planning background. I do not. Sometimes I find it difficult to form a picture in my mind of what is proposed. When an agency produces what I consider to be almost a fool's brief - I do not mean it aims to fool people, but that it is a brief that one does not require a great deal of intelligence to understand - it is welcome. I would appreciate those comments being conveyed to the officers concerned. The Water Corporation has funds available and a land acquisition is being arranged through the Ministry of Planning. Can the Minister tell the Parliament what funds are available in dollar terms, what land is being considered and so on?

MR SHAVE (Alfred Cove - Minister for Lands) [3.51 pm]: The member for Maylands raised a number of issues. She referred first to clause 5 and the native title issue. This is being done to comply with the future process under the Native Title Act. This will be undertaken after parliamentary approval so that the process is not pre-empted. The correct procedure is to establish the right to negotiate on that basis.

The member for Maylands and the member for Bassendean also referred to clause 10 and discussion ensued about

alternative land. I have a memorandum dated today from the Ministry for Planning, which has been involved in this issue, which states -

The Water Corporation has given a commitment in accordance with a Cabinet determination on this matter to provide funds to acquire replacement land proposed to be excised from the Park.

In relation to the member for Mayland's question, the memorandum also states -

Lands to the north of Burns Beach Road also suitable to replace the proposed treatment plant excision have already been reserved for Parks and Recreation and the WAPC is expecting to purchase at least one of the private properties either in the current financial year or 1998/99. Upon purchase the Water Corporation will recoup the WAPC for its proportion of the purchase price. The WAPC would then transfer the land to the Crown for formal inclusion into the Neerabup National Park consistent with Cabinet's decision.

I have a map of the properties proposed to be purchased. It shows that this excision involves about 8 hectares and the areas of land which are proposed to be purchased and which have been classified as important for parks, conservation and reserves comprise nearly 290 ha. The member for Maylands can have this map. This measure constitutes a considerable increase in the size of the park.

The member for Nollamara raised a number of issues, including the Land Administration Bill perhaps reducing the capacity of Parliament to deal with A class reserves, conservation areas and national parks. All of those changes under the Land Administration Bill will still be brought to Parliament. If all the A class reserves that have been dealt with in this Bill were to be dealt with next year they would be required to be presented to the Parliament in a similar manner.

Mr Kobelke interjected.

Mr SHAVE: There are many minor reserves. The Government has no intention of avoiding proper scrutiny. This will simply expedite the process where a department has an area of land that is determined to be of little conservation consequence.

Mr Kobelke interjected.

Mr SHAVE: The Government has made no decision to put the land opposite Parliament House into a reserve vested with the Trades and Labor Council or anyone else. Discussions have taken place with the TLC, I have met with Mr Cooke and the Government's position on this issue has been explained. Undoubtedly there will be a need at some stage to redevelop that land, and that has been explained to the TLC.

Mr Kobelke: The present redevelopment is excellent.

Mr SHAVE: I expected the member to say that. I would think less of him if he did not represent his constituency and point that out to me.

Reference was also made to additions to A class reserves. Under the new Bill it may not be necessary to bring to Parliament proposals to add land to an A class reserve. However, where we are looking at excising or reducing areas of land, the proposal will need to be debated in this place.

The member for Bassendean raised the issue of the football oval. The Government's vesting with regard to this land clearly states that it is for reserves and occasional parking. If the City of Subiaco, or the current group in control, were to look at bituminising that oval that would clearly fall outside the vesting order because it states that the land is for recreation and occasional parking. The council must determine the number of cars it will allow on that land and how that will damage the grass. However, if it were to come back to the Government in three years and say that the grass is getting cut up and that it wants to bituminise the land, the current Government would not support that proposal. The Minister has the power to revoke the vesting order if the council does not comply. Whether it is this Government or a future Government, if the Subiaco council decided to do a deal with the Football Commission that was not in keeping with the spirit of this measure, the Government would have the right to revoke the vesting order or to take legal action to stop it. It will be redesignated "recreational and occasional parking" because there was some dispute over the legality of allowing occasional parking. Rather than becoming involved in litigation with a neighbour, the Government has recognised the current usage of occasional parking. This has the support of the Football Commission and the local council and validates what is occurring. If the City of Subiaco wanted to bituminise that area and turn it into a parking area and charge for parking, that would be a different issue that it would have to revisit with this Government or any future government.

I am advised that the site referred to in clause 10 is a particular shape because the water treatment plant needs a slope to take advantage of gravity. The plant will be located near an old limestone quarry. The park is pristine, but the

treatment plant will be located in a degraded area. The park will lose 8 hectares but it will gain another 270 ha when negotiations have been completed. From a conservation and environmental point of view, the park will be enhanced by the action the Government is taking.

Mr Brown: What will that cost?

Mr SHAVE: Negotiations are still taking place and I cannot advise what the dollar value is. It would be inappropriate of me to comment on that. However, as soon as I know the monetary consideration I will advise the member for Bassendean. I thank members for their support of the Bill.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Committee

The Chairman of Committees (Mr Bloffwitch) in the Chair, Mr Shave (Minister for Lands) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 4 put and passed.

Clause 5: Reserve No. 2682 in the Town of Albany -

Dr EDWARDS: My question arises from reading the explanatory notes. I gather that once the change is made to the A class reserve, a change will also be made to the C class reserve for the trigonometrical station and television translator site reserve. Where do the native title ramifications arise?

Mr Shave: It is with the creation of the C class reserve.

Dr EDWARDS: That area already has a C class reserve because of the telecommunications activity occurring there. Does the excision from the A class reserve that changes the shape in the C class reserve trigger native title ramifications?

Mr Shave: The addition of the new section to the existing reserve becomes a future act. Therefore, it is dealt with in that manner.

Mr KOBELKE: Who will be responsible for this additional 2 521 square metres of land once it is excised from the reserve and designated for a satellite receiving dish? I am aware from problems in my electorate of the need to provide land for telecommunications. While this change relates to SBS activities, what is the potential for the land to be turned over to other telecommunications uses? The effect of the federal legislation change is to give the State some power over telecommunications transmitting equipment for mobile phones. That has been a contentious issue. If a matter of that nature arose over that site, who will have control of the enlarged reserve? If as a result of new technologies that space is required, who will be the decision maker and what right of appeal will local residents or community groups have over the potential use of this land?

Mr SHAVE: The existing site is unvested and therefore is under my control. The excised land will also remain under the control of the Minister.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 6 put and passed.

Clause 7: Closure of road, and reserves Nos. 17644, 24151 and 18987 in the Shire of Plantagenet -

Mr KOBELKE: This clause relates to a reserve in the Shire of Plantagenet which is part of a reserve under the control of the National Parks and Wildlife Service that will be closed off to facilitate the repair work needed for a dam situated on an unpaved reserve. The portion of the road being closed off is not a dedicated road. My regret is that it is many years since I have had the privilege to spend time in the Porongurups, which is a beautiful area. I hope I can return to that area before long.

Clause 7 will, at least in part, take land and return it to the Crown. In more than one place, the Bill states that the land is to be constituted as crown land. Will the Minister indicate what will be the potential for native title claims, given this land appears to have been alienated and returned to the Crown? I will not use the technical terms relating to crown land because they are complex; however, will the land be considered as having been alienated, even though it is returned to the Crown, or is it possible it will be subject to a native title claim?

Mr SHAVE: Because there was a prior dedicated road in the area, while not designated where it was, it was considered that native title was extinguished. Most of the land in that area was originally freehold, as the member pointed out. We do not consider the native title implications will be an issue.

Clause put and passed.**Clause 8: Reserve No. 9337 (Kitchener Park and Mueller Park) in the City of Subiaco -**

Mr BROWN: I thank the Minister for the answers he gave in his reply to the second reading debate. I sought an indication of what constitutes occasional parking under this clause. Currently, the occasional parking for which the reserve is used relates only to when a football match is played at Subiaco Oval. I do not know of any other occasion when that area is open to the public to park their vehicles. Subiaco Oval is used for probably nine of the home games of the two Western Australian based Australian Football League teams - that is, 18 times a year - and for an interstate game if one is held in Perth. Depending on seasonal fluctuations, that area of land can cope with parking. On occasions it has been closed during the football season because the land has become degraded.

All organisations that use large stadiums must maximise the use of those stadiums. I do not know for what else Subiaco Oval is used, but I acknowledge that the pressures put on it can mount. I suppose it comes down to how many times a year that area is used for parking. Secondary to that, does the local authority that oversees this area have a responsibility to lock the gates if the land becomes degraded? Is it its responsibility to make that assessment? I am not sure how that works.

My concern is that someone will look at the economics of a proposal to use it for another sport or some other activity and they will not write into the capital costs the fact that a new car park is needed. Presumably a lot of parking area is available; however, someone will come in at the last moment and say, "I am sorry, but this area is used only for occasional parking. It was used 18 times a year and it is now proposed to use it 30 times a year. The oval will not cope with it; therefore, we will not open it." I am trying to ascertain who will make the assessment on the degree of incremental usage. I appreciate any redesignation of the land will have to be made by the Government of the day. The Minister might be put in a very difficult position if the occasions on which that area is used annually increases to 25 and then to 30 to 35. Its use will increase slowly and all of a sudden a Minister, whoever it might be, will say that is enough and there is no more and there will be economic gain for the AFL or the West Australian Football Commission.

I ask the Minister to comment, firstly, on the usage and maintenance of the park and, secondly, on the degree to which one looks in the medium term at where it will lead, given the area will be legislated for occasional parking.

Mr SHAVE: The points the member raised are valid and that is what is happening now. The WAFC knows that it must provide parking for Subiaco Oval on which AFL games are played. If it does not it will have a major problem. At the end of the day I cannot determine what a future Minister will do or the pressures he will be under from various groups. I hope that the City of Subiaco recognises the concerns of the residents. The history of the lights at the oval indicate that, in the main, the local authority is concerned about the welfare of the residents.

If the local authority allows excessive use of the area, there is no doubt that it will be chopped up and will not last. I have not come across a miracle cure for overused football or cricket ovals apart from artificial turf. It is a concern and is something I hope the City of Subiaco recognises, but if it does not and there is enough public concern and the public takes its concern to the Minister, one hopes the Minister will endeavour to resolve the problem.

If the City of Subiaco allowed excessive use of that facility and did not strike a balance between the residents' requirements - some of the residents in that area are very tolerant - and its position and said it will look at the commercial dollar, hopefully the residents, in the same way as they do with governments, will take the appropriate action when the council is standing for re-election.

Problems will arise if the council does not recognise the residents' concerns about the oval. However, its record on dealing with lighting and the holding of rock festivals and night matches indicates it will take a balanced view that considers the welfare of the residents.

Clause put and passed.**Clause 9 put and passed.****Clause 10: Reserve No. 27575 (Neerabup National Park) in the City of Wanneroo -**

Dr EDWARDS: I have referred to the possible threats to Neerabup National Park: The freeway extension, an east-west road, a water reservoir and a ground water treatment plant, to name just a few. The Minister reassured us about the 8 hectares that will be excised on this occasion, but will the 270 ha that will be added to the park as part of that deal be compensation for events that are likely to occur in the future? For example, when land will need to be excised for the freeway extension, will we be told that replacement land will not be made available because it has already been provided in that 270 ha? If that will be the case, I signal the concern that a long, narrow national park has a greater likelihood of weeds invading from the long edges on either side and of animals not having such a large

habitat because they do not have a circular area around their base. In future years, what arguments will be put about this 270 ha, which we welcome as a proposed inclusion?

Mr SHAVE: Section M6 of the System 6 report recommended that that 270 ha be purchased irrespective of the 8 ha being claimed and irrespective of whether the Water Corporation needed that land for a treatment plant. The intention was always to purchase that land, probably in recognition of the issues that the member has raised about the narrow nature of that park.

Dr Edwards: Would that license people to take land for the freeway extension, the east-west road, the water reservoir or the golf course?

Mr SHAVE: No, because now that that land falls within a national park, any person who wanted to take any of that land would have to come to the Parliament, and, with the state of the Parliament as it is, would have to convince all members of the Parliament, not just the current Government.

Dr Edwards: I know that, but will that land be used as a bank from which the other bits are taken?

Mr SHAVE: I cannot commit the Government to not taking any other land if that land needed to be taken. I am advised that this land was purchased because of the System 6 recommendation that the park be enlarged.

Mr KOBELKE: I seek some clarification about the land that will be purchased as compensation for the land that will be excised. Is there a typographical error? I am sure the Bill is correct in referring to 8.789 6 hectares, but annexure 1 refers to square metres.

Mr Shave: It is a typographical error.

Mr KOBELKE: The Minister has said that he cannot indicate the cost of the land that will be included, but is it a designated piece of land or just a general area?

Mr Shave: It is a designated area, and I have a diagram which sets out the land that is being rezoned and is proposed to be purchased which I am happy to let the member see.

Mr KOBELKE: What is the zoning of the land that will be purchased and what is the nature of the vegetation that is on it?

Mr Shave: It is freehold land that belongs to another party. I am advised that it is of conservation value and of benefit to the Parliament. It is not cleared land.

Clause put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

Third Reading

Leave granted to proceed forthwith to the third reading.

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

COUNTRY HIGH SCHOOL HOSTELS AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Resumed from 18 September.

MR RIPPER (Belmont - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [4.30 pm]: I grew up in a small country town which had a population of 450 but no high school. To receive a secondary education it was necessary for me to go to a place where there was a high school. Ultimately I came to the city and stayed with relatives so that I could attend the Churchlands Senior High School. I had to do that because there was no option to stay at a hostel close to the town in which I grew up. In subsequent years a high school hostel was built in the nearest town to our farming community, and my sister stayed at a country high school hostel and attended the Katanning Senior High School. I am well aware of the difficulties which some country children have in obtaining a suitable secondary education. Before the group of students who attended primary school with me went on to secondary school, most students in the country town in which we grew up did not attend secondary school. They spent years 8 and 9 at the primary school, and were enrolled in what was called "post primary". They had a very inadequate education compared with students in the city who had access to a high school education.

The establishment of the Country High School Hostels Authority and the provision of hostels can be seen as a mechanism for overcoming the very serious educational disadvantages which rural and isolated students can experience. It is worth noting the statement of the authority's mission in its annual report, which reads -

The Authority's mission, facilitated by the Country High School Hostels Authority Act 1960, is to provide an opportunity for students in remote areas to attend primary and secondary schools and TAFE colleges by providing suitable, affordable, supervised student accommodation in strategic locations.

Many families do not want to send their children away to board privately, with relatives, at a private boarding school or even at a Country High School Hostels Authority hostel. However, if parents value education, they must do that because of the inability of Governments to provide education facilities throughout the State.

The hostels authority accommodates 763 students, 99.6 per cent of which are secondary students. In 1995 the accommodation fee was \$5 050. However, the State and Commonwealth Governments provide assistance to parents of isolated students, and I understand the minimum amount is \$3 000. That assistance reduces the net cost to parents of having children accommodated at a hostel to \$51 a week for each of the 40 weeks of the school year. That cost is significantly less than some parents may find themselves paying if they are subject to the Commonwealth Government's child support scheme. It is interesting to note the different ways to calculate the cost of raising children. Certainly some higher income, noncustodial parents would be paying more to custodial parents than \$51 a week, if subject to the child support scheme.

The authority has a total of 102 staff and, in addition to income from boarding fees, it receives payments from the consolidated fund to make up the operating deficit and to provide for administration and capital expenditure. The total recurrent expenditure of the authority in 1994-95 was \$6.1m. However, the income from boarding fees was only \$3.4m, leaving a recurrent deficit of \$2.7m. Therefore the authority receives a substantial subsidy from the State Government for the operation of its hostels. The State Government has also contributed assets which provide the basis for the operation of the hostels. According to the annual report, the net assets of the authority are valued at \$17.3m. There are \$17.3m of state assets, an ongoing recurrent subsidy of around \$2.7m per annum, and additional funds required for capital purposes, but the hostels are experiencing declining enrolments.

The tables in the annual report indicate that in 1985 the authority accommodated 1 011 students, and in 1995 enrolments were down to 763. Some hostels have faced a greater decline in enrolment. For example, in 1995 the Moora hostel accommodated 27 students; 10 years earlier it accommodated 82. In 1995 the Northam hostel accommodated 61 students; 10 years earlier it accommodated 139. The annual report notes that hostels at Moora, Merredin, Northam and Katanning were significantly underutilised in 1994-95.

That brings me to the purpose of this Bill. It is not a major Bill. Its object is to remove the requirement that all residents at hostels be enrolled at country high or primary schools. The Bill allows for enrolments to come from isolated students studying at secondary schools, and from students of such other classes as approved by the Minister. According to the second reading speech, this will allow students enrolled in TAFE to be legitimately enrolled at the Country High School Hostels Authority hostels. It will also allow students not classified as isolated students to enrol at a hostel provided they do not take the place of students who are defined as isolated.

This seems to be a very satisfactory and sensible amendment to the legislation, and the Opposition supports the Bill. However, we note that the rationale for the change is not quite consistent with some statements in the annual report. For example, the annual report states that although authority hostels accommodate primary school and TAFE college students in some instances, the demand was minimal and reflects parental satisfaction with the other options available to the students. It is interesting that, despite the legislation, the authority is accommodating students enrolled at TAFE, and that the authority does not think that there is much demand for those circumstances. Although we support the legislation, we wonder how much difference it will make. Nevertheless, I concede there is an economic argument for getting more students into the colleges. The smaller colleges have much higher costs per student than the larger colleges, and naturally if more students can be taken into those which are underutilised, the operating cost per student will fall and the effective subsidy per student from the state Budget will also fall. Equally, some people may find that their education will be facilitated; that will apply to students attending TAFE or those at a secondary school who, for some reason or other, are unable to live at home.

My only concern with the proposal is that a genuinely isolated student might find that he or she cannot obtain a place in a hostel because a place has been taken by someone enrolled in TAFE or someone who is not an isolated student. The legislation provides for a priority allocation; clause 6 states that places in a hostel shall be allocated to students in the following order of priority -

- (a) students (whether isolated or not) who were accommodated in the hostel during the previous school year;

- (b) isolated students who were not accommodated in the hostel during the previous year; and
- (c) subject to subsection (2), students of all other classes.

The Bill tries to cover the difficulty I foresee by giving priority to students from isolated regions. However, a small difficulty remains: If a large number of non-isolated students were accommodated at a hostel, in subsequent years, it is possible that some isolated students may miss out on places. The first priority in the legislation is for people who were accommodated in the previous year. One could imagine that isolated students will miss out if a hostel is almost full to capacity with continuing students. However, given the overall underutilisation of capacity in the hostel system, it will not be a major problem.

The Opposition supports these sensible changes as they are a way of meeting the educational needs of some students. They also deal with threats to the continuing financial viability of some hostels.

I made comment at the beginning of my speech about the difficulties experienced by some rural and remote students in gaining a satisfactory education. I conclude with a few further comments on rural education. The Education Department annual report for 1995-96 contains a table on page 25 which deals with the apparent retention rates from year 8 to year 12 by location and gender. It shows that the retention rate for urban females was 72.3 per cent, but for rural females was only 50.7 per cent. The retention rate for urban males was 61.1 per cent, but for rural males was only 44.9 per cent. Those figures indicate rural educational disadvantage. Some reasons could be found for these figures based on social structure. The socioeconomic structure of country areas is obviously different from such structure in the city, and some differences also exist in the career aspirations of country and city children. However, some other relevant factors are not so acceptable. I refer to distance from suitable educational facilities.

The establishment of the Country High School Hostels Authority, and the subsidy it receives from the state Budget, can be regarded as a mechanism designed to overcome educational disadvantages suffered by country students. Some other disadvantages also need to be addressed by the State Government: Country students, whether they stay at home to attend a country high school, or are accommodated at a hostel to attend a country high school, by and large attend schools which are smaller and with fewer resources and facilities than those found in the metropolitan area. You would know from the electorate you represent, Mr Deputy Speaker, that on the whole, country teachers have less experience than teachers who staff city schools.

We have a problem in this State; namely, how do we distribute fairly the available teaching talent across a very large State? To date that teaching talent has been distributed across the State by a centralised staffing system. However, that system has had its own disadvantages. Despite its existence, no-one can argue that country schools receive a fair share of teacher talent when compared to city schools. Nevertheless, country schools are certainly better served by a centralised staffing system than they would be served by local hiring and firing. I am concerned about changes in staffing arrangements in the state school system in Western Australia which will undermine the centralised staffing system.

A current pilot program enables schools to hire staff when vacancies arise during the year, and that program might be expanded in later years. If we move towards local hiring and firing, country schools will find it very difficult to attract their fair share of teacher talent.

Another reason for that lack of equality in the distribution of teaching talent is that the traditional rewards for country service are disappearing. In the past teachers would undertake their first appointment at a country school, and after a couple of years they would be reasonably assured of receiving permanency; they would then be appointed to city schools. Many teachers are appointed to the country today, but they are not getting permanency as a result of the low turnover rate among teaching staff through the low resignation rate. They uproot themselves and make sacrifices in taking their first teaching jobs in remote locations; however, they cannot get permanency and a transfer back to the city. That would be a significant disincentive for good quality teachers to move to the country.

That situation is piled on top of other serious disincentives. Many teachers when going to places like Meekatharra find that the quality of housing is very poor and simply does not match the quality of housing which people now take for granted in suburban Perth. In the past, people have been prepared to accept some disadvantages like poor quality housing on the basis that other rewards were available - that is, they will get a job with permanency and eventually will be transferred back to the city. However, those rewards are not so available any more.

Also, people will not be as advantaged in promotional terms by country service as they were in the past. The Education Department system was that people won their first promotion when a vacancy occurred in country regions. Having served in that region, they were able to transfer back to the city. However, as a result of the Public Sector Management Act and a decision made under the Equal Opportunity Act - we have two impetuses for this change - the Education Department's promotion and transfer system has been completely undermined.

Each promotional vacancy must be considered as subject to the rules governing promotion for an individual vacancy rather than as a position which could be filled by transfer. I understand that the Education Department is referring to these as merit based transfers. Anything based on merit sounds wonderful and very difficult to oppose, but the effect of these changes will be to deprive country schools of their fair share of the teaching and administrative talent available to the Education Department. If we have the whole pool of teachers competing for promotion in the metropolitan area and a smaller pool competing for promotion in country schools, one can see what will happen in the long term: The metropolitan schools will get the lion's share and the country schools will have to make do with successful participants in a much smaller competitive pool of teachers who are interested in serving in the country. Unless the Government can radically revise the incentives for country services, our country students, including those living in country high school hostels, will be significantly disadvantaged. That is not quite the topic of the Bill, but because the Bill is designed to overcome some of the educational disadvantages faced by country students, I thought it worthwhile canvassing what I regard as a new threat to the quality of country education. Unless the Government can come up with a much more attractive country benefits package, there will be serious difficulties in attracting good teachers to the country in future years. The advantages of promotional opportunities and access to permanency that people have previously received are at present disappearing.

We spend a fair amount on the Office of Country High School Hostels through an operating subsidy of at least \$2.7m a year, not including capital. State assets of \$17.3m are tied up in its hostels. I hope the Bill will enable us to make better use of the hostels' assets. The operating subsidy might be reduced if the hostels can be run closer to their viable enrolment levels. The Bill will also assist students who do not want to be enrolled at secondary school but at TAFE and who need to live away from home to do so. It may also assist students who for one reason or another cannot live at home and for whom the solution would be enrolment at a hostel. Under the provisions of this Bill I can see country high school hostels playing the role of welfare support for some rural students. If they are able to do that, to some extent they will take the place of the former Department of Community Service hostels which used to operate in the country but which have been closed. I am pleased to support the Bill.

MR BLOFFWITCH (Geraldton) [4.55 pm]: As Geraldton has one of the positive growth patterns in the hostel industry I feel obliged to say a few words. Members may ask themselves why Geraldton is positive when some other cities are negative.

Mr Johnson interjected.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: It has a little bit to do with the local member. More importantly it has to do with the changes to the high schools in Geraldton. We have amalgamated two high schools and are able to offer a range of subjects to years 8 to 12 which are equivalent to those in the biggest high schools in the metropolitan area. Until we did that some 37 per cent of children going into year 10 got their first choice of subjects. This is now about 90 per cent. Because of the amalgamation we have larger numbers in classes for previously unavailable courses. Let us say that previously two children in one school and five in another wanted to do something. We have now those seven in one class. That will warrant the school providing a subject which would not be warranted for two children. Members will understand that it is impossible to provide a subject for only two children when other subjects must be shared. I agree with the member for Belmont that we must get smarter in the country and do more to offer more opportunities.

One aspect of the member for Belmont's speech that I did not like was his expression "welfare system". It is not a welfare system. Are the children of Geraldton, Merredin and Carnarvon not entitled to the same education as those in Nedlands and Midland? Of course they are. That is what we as a Government are supposed to be delivering to all the children in this State. If to try to achieve it we must put \$2.5m a year into the system for accommodation, that is a small price to pay for the wealth that we get out of country areas which helps us in the city to live a better life. I do not ever want to hear that described as a subsidy. It is trying to bring to the country a level of education somewhere near that offered in the metropolitan area. I believe we can do that. As the member for Belmont said, it will cost more money in some areas to attract teachers, but is that not our responsibility? Is the responsibility of the Government not to look at those types of things and make them attractive? We have been to Wiluna and some of the outposts of the world. Wiluna is not a very attractive place in which to live, but does that mean that the children of the miners and Aboriginal children are not entitled to the same educational opportunities as those in Cottesloe? I do not think it should. We must re-examine the education and teacher issues. We must start paying some very good money, not just for mediocre teachers. Why can teachers not be assessed in the same way as the rest of the community? Why can we not have a list of teachers who are extremely well qualified and well thought of in the Education Department? Why can we not say that we need a percentage of them to teach in country areas? Until we start looking at things like that, even with the changes we are making in Geraldton, we will still be a little behind the eight ball. We are fairly lucky that most teachers who go to Geraldton do not want to leave. They love the lifestyle. They like the ocean, the water and the climate.

Mr Cunningham: And the crayfish.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: That is right. Crayfish are a great attraction for them. Most of these teachers inherit a couple of pots from the teacher who has just left and sometimes they also buy the boat of the teacher who is leaving. It is a good lifestyle, but not every country area can offer these attractions. We must be aware of these things.

I compliment the hostels for providing the service they do. Without them, many kids could not access these schools. It is essential to provide these facilities. The technical and further education college in Geraldton has on-site accommodation; however, if more students require accommodation and there are spare berths, it is commonsense that those beds are used.

A new grammar school is starting up in Geraldton. It has had a bit of a rocky path, but it is getting there. Things are going well. Providing boarding facilities represents a massive cost to a school when it is starting up. If there are spare berths, why can they not be used to accommodate some of the students who might need them? I can see no difference if someone wants to pay a little more for similar facilities. That is all very well. However, we must give all students an opportunity to use these hostels. We have about seven convents, a couple of very good Catholic schools and an excellent high school within the Catholic system in Geraldton. Why should those families who live out of the area be prevented from having their children board in the town? They should be given the opportunity. We should at least be providing some resources for them. I commend the Bill. I urge the Parliamentary Secretary to tell the Minister that we want to see more hostel accommodation, not less.

MS ANWYL (Kalgoorlie) [5.02 pm]: This is extremely important legislation. I was pleased to note the comments of the Minister in the second reading speech. He started by saying that the introduction of this amendment Bill represents a commitment to providing all students throughout Western Australia with the same quality of education, regardless of geographic location, as stated in the Government's education policy released last year. In my electorate, I do not think that has come to fruition, and I shall give an explanation of that. At the outset, I place on the record that I understood that this debate would be called on tomorrow. Unfortunately, I have not had an opportunity to research the situation in Kalgoorlie as well as I had hoped. In fact, there is an Isolated Children's Hostel in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, but it receives no government funding of which I am aware, save for the traditional Austudy allowances for isolated students. That creates difficulties for the parents whose children live in the isolated children's hostel. Not a lot of children are concerned, I freely admit; however, the kids who use that hostel have parents who reside mainly on the Nullarbor.

Mr Bloffwitch: How many board in Kalgoorlie?

Ms ANWYL: As I was saying, I have not done my research for today because I thought this Bill was coming on for debate tomorrow. However, the number is about 20 children.

Mr Bloffwitch: We have 100.

Ms ANWYL: There is a government financed hostel in Geraldton. We do not have that in Kalgoorlie. That is the difference. We are down to eight.

Mr Bloffwitch: If you had the ocean, as opposed to the goldfields, where would you rather go? I think I would rather go to the ocean.

Ms ANWYL: I am sitting in this seat, a fact which speaks for itself. The member for Geraldton raised a valid point. He made some comments about Wiluna.

Mr Bloffwitch: I was not being derogatory in any way.

Ms ANWYL: The member should not be so defensive, because I was not about to suggest that he was. I accept that Wiluna is a difficult place to which to recruit people. Comments were made by the member for Geraldton and also the shadow Minister for Education about the difficulties in attracting teaching staff, let alone other workers to these towns. They are valid in the context of the current debate.

I have already referred to the second reading speech, which stated that this Government is committed to providing all students throughout Western Australia with the same high quality education, regardless of where they live. Those are pretty broad, encompassing words. My concern is that that is happening for the kids whose families live in Kalgoorlie-Boulder; however, for those who live further afield, it is not happening. The parents fund raise very substantially to keep the isolated children's hostel going. I think the member for Roleystone said that eight kids were living in that facility at present. That may well be the case. I know one reason advanced for cutting the funding some years ago was that the facility was not utilised as well as it might have been. In 1994 about 21 children were at the hostel, and that may have been a high point in the number of children accommodated there.

The principle is being espoused by the Government that all children will have equal access to education. To suggest that those children whose families choose to send them to board in Perth will have an equivalent opportunity of

education as country kids who live in towns that do not have years 11 and 12 on offer is a bit of a nonsense. We can extend that and look at what is available. I appreciate that the Minister for Education is not in Parliament this week. We can look at the whole concept of super schools, as has been espoused by the Minister. Implicit in that is that children will have access to the larger regional centres. It is very difficult to see how children can have access to these super schools if they do not have adequate accommodation facilities.

Of course, the debate always comes back to resources. We will never be able to provide each and every child with as good an education as that which is on offer in the metropolitan area. Let us look at the current debate about school sizes, particularly in secondary education. I understand an Education Department guideline prescribes that about 1 200 is the optimum number of students in terms of the range of tertiary entrance examination subjects that should be available to all students. In the country that will not always be the case. I have referred already to the fact that many district high schools do not have years 11 and 12 on offer. I do not criticise that necessarily. It would be extremely naive to suggest that we can adequately resource all district high schools to provide a full range of year 11 and 12 subjects on offer. One school may have only six students, each of whom chooses several different subjects. It is just not viable to provide those resources. However, it is important that for those families who cannot afford private education - a la in a boarding school in Perth - the infrastructure is available in the larger regional centres so that children might attend what is on offer there.

Although only eight children may be at the Isolated Children's Hostel at Kalgoorlie-Boulder at the moment, I suggest that the quality of life for those children and their families is much enhanced because they are schooling closer to their families rather than if they were being educated in Perth. Therefore, they have much greater contact with their families, particularly on the weekends and so forth. A range of factors affect our young people. I refer to the indicators such as drug use amongst young people, youth suicide, self-harm and all those sorts of issues. We know school retention is a key issue and also that parental or family support is very important. It is critical for our young rural people to get schooling as close as possible to their families.

The Kalgoorlie facility provides a home to a number of Nullarbor children. With regard to the education dollar, the Government must be cognisant of the fact that primary school education is done largely by School of the Air or distance education methods. These children have been fairly reliant on their parents for schooling, and I suggest that is a cost effective system for the State Government. I do not have the figures but I suggest it is a fairly low cost per head. With regard to secondary education, there is a need for extra resources to be made available for these children. It is a chicken and egg argument with regard to the Kalgoorlie facility, because if there is no functional hostel facility operating it will be difficult to attract parents and children to that facility. I am very much aware of the extent of work done by parents and community members in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, but the reality is that the facility is less than perfect, and it would not be unkind to describe certain parts of the facility as shoddy. That reflects a lack of resources. I do not know what is the answer, and perhaps the member for Roleystone can suggest what can be done to maximise the use of resources and ensure that children in remote areas have access to regional centres for education.

I am not sure of the progress of the super school model at the moment. The Eastern Goldfields Senior High School in Kalgoorlie-Boulder has been involved in a lot of consultation with the community recently, and I applaud the Minister and his department for ensuring the steering committee process is undertaken. Those members of the community who chose to take part in the process overwhelmingly decided to go with a proposal for a senior college to be established for years 11 and 12 students, adjacent to the existing school campus. I have supported that and I know the Minister also supports that model. It is pleasing that the local community is also in favour of that, notwithstanding that some people dissent from that notion.

With regard to the rhetoric in the second reading speech, it must be acknowledged in an upfront way that country students face difficulties. I know Hon Mark Nevill has done some work in this regard in the Mining and Pastoral Region, and I understand that the tertiary entrance examination scores indicate that country people are not well represented among the high achievers. Also the retention rates show some alarming trends against country students continuing their schooling to years 11 and 12. I highlight the issue as it relates to Aboriginal children where, again, there are alarming statistics on the trend against Aboriginal children remaining in education until year 12. I have already mentioned the importance of the school retention issue in terms of some of the wider indicators for dysfunction which can lead to self-harm, suicide and high rates of drug use. Unemployment is also a key issue. I know all country members want young people in their electorates to have opportunities in the job market equal to those available to young people in Perth. However, if we do not encourage young people to remain in full time education, we shall not be serving them well in terms of their getting jobs later in life.

Another alarming trend relates to the recent federal budget changes that will make it compulsory for 16 and 17 year olds to be in full time education or training if they are to receive any form of benefit. The youth unemployment benefit will be abolished from 1 January 1998. I am sure people have differing views on that but, whatever their philosophical stance, it will create a further drain on this already under resourced sector, particularly as it relates to

vocational training opportunities within the school system. The then Minister is on the record at the time of announcing the cuts as acknowledging that 60 000 people are on the waiting list for technical and further education places this year. Next year those people who are subject to means testing - those under 21 years of age and all 16 and 17 year olds - must be in full time education or training if they cannot find work. That is a significant number of people, and it will lead to an even greater concentration of people in country areas. It means country high schools will be under pressure to provide a wider range of years 11 and 12 subjects to those children.

I return to the beginning: What will the Government do to provide accommodation for these young people in regional centres where those training and education opportunities are available? It will not find extra years 11 and 12 courses being offered in district high schools, most of which currently do not have classes beyond year 10. It is a significant problem which I am not sure has been addressed by the Government at the state level. Certainly, the Office of Youth has not addressed it, and I am not sure whether the state Education Department has done any research about the extra drain on resources that will occur.

Having said that, I support the legislation insofar as it will provide better services for regional centres with hostels, and I look forward to the comments of the member for Roleystone about the particular problem of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Isolated Children's Hostel.

MR TUBBY (Roleystone - Parliamentary Secretary) [5.17 pm]: I thank all members who have contributed to this debate, during which a whole range of issues were raised. I refer first to the comments of the member for Kalgoorlie. I cannot comment on the circumstances in Kalgoorlie, other than to say I am aware of that hostel. When I was principal at the Leinster school in 1980-81 a number of the secondary students went to that hostel, although others went past Kalgoorlie to the Esperance hostel.

Ms Anwyl: They still do.

Mr TUBBY: The Isolated Children's Hostel at Kalgoorlie-Boulder is competing against Esperance and, as I said in the second reading speech, Esperance is becoming proactive in trying to attract more and more students to its college. The same thing must occur in Kalgoorlie. I am aware the facilities are not good in Kalgoorlie, but the legislation allows for students at the hostel to attend not only government secondary and primary schools and TAFE, but also local private schools. Are there boarding facilities at the Catholic college in Kalgoorlie?

Ms Anwyl: No.

Mr TUBBY: We anticipate that if we can reach a joint arrangement with the private sector in areas such as Kalgoorlie, there is no reason that they cannot expand their numbers by utilising the facilities.

Ms Anwyl: I know last year some of the children at the Isolated Children's Hostel were attending John Paul College, which is the private sector school.

Mr TUBBY: Some of these arrangements have been taking place on an ad hoc basis throughout the State, and that is the reason for this amendment. It has been done with the Minister's permission, but it did not comply with the previous legislation. We hope these sorts of arrangements can be reached with the private sector to put joint moneys into upgrading the facilities, from which everyone will benefit. Those parents in isolated areas who want a private school education for their children can send them to the hostel, as can those whose children will receive a state education.

The member for Belmont referred to retention rates. They are alarming and I do not think anyone is too sure of how to get around that. About four years ago the Tomlinson report made recommendations for improving retention rates and upgrading the standard of education in country areas. Some of those recommendations are being implemented or have been implemented; nonetheless, we still have a very long way to go. Having been brought up in country areas and having taught in country areas as a teacher, deputy principal and principal over almost 20 years I share many of the concerns expressed by the member for Belmont. In the past we have been able to attract good, competent teachers to country areas through the promotion system which maintained the right of transfer back into prime locations. We are now changing that system and I am a little fearful for the future.

We must provide some substantial incentives such as those mentioned by the member for Belmont. Housing must be significantly upgraded. Who in his right mind will want to take his family to a remote country area knowing he will be there not for only two or three years but for up to six years? Accommodation in many remote and country areas will have to be much better than it is now. We must also provide a great deal more in the way of allowances to attract teachers. If we take away the incentive of a good transfer or a promotional opportunity as a result of accepting a country posting, we will have to provide substantial alternative incentives.

In the past, because people have been keen to gain permanency, promotion and the right to transfer to a prime location, incentives have involved no real cost to the Government. Teachers have put up with inadequate and

substandard housing with low rents to accomplish longer term goals. However, if we are taking away those longer term goals we must provide substantial short term incentives to encourage good, experienced teachers to outer areas. It will be very costly, but my experience tells me that, if we must try it, we might be reversing the wheel in five to 10 years' time if we are unable to attract teachers to country areas. That has nothing to do with the legislation, but it was referred to by the member for Belmont and I commend him for pursuing that line. It has not been tried here, but we must give it a go. Some good incentives might work; I do not know. My experience leads me to believe that that is doubtful.

I thank the member for his comments and support of the legislation. It will help to keep students in our regional centres rather than their having to come to Perth. During a radio interview I was asked what we were doing about district high schools because we would be allowing years 8, 9 and 10 to go to a regional centre and therefore access a year 8 to year 12 facility; whereas only a year 8 to year 10 facility was offered at district high schools. That was a fairly short sighted question, because if parents wanted their children to go to a year 8 to year 12 facility they would be sending them to Perth. We are simply providing them with a regional centre as an alternative to sending them to Perth.

Mr Ripper: Is concern being expressed about the declining number of students accommodated in the hostels? Without legislation such as this would more hostels eventually close?

Mr TUBBY: They might. We are concerned about the declining number, and that is another reason we are taking these steps. The member for Belmont said that the annual report of the Country High School Hostels Authority referred to a lack of overwhelming demand from students who were not already eligible to attend a hostel; for example, hostels were only for students attending secondary school. They were not available for students attending private school, primary school, TAFE or anything else. However, some hostels were able to accommodate those students with permission from the Minister, but that was contrary to the legislation. Hostels could not openly advertise for the range of students to attend. Now they will be able to do that. We hope that once parents realise they can access a hostel at a regional centre, at what the member for Belmont has suggested is a subsidised accommodation rate, more parents will take the opportunity. This is the expectation behind this legislation.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Committee

The Deputy Chairman of Committees (Ms McHale) in the Chair; Mr Tubby (Parliamentary Secretary) in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1 to 3 put and passed.

Clause 4: Section 3 amended -

Mr RIPPER: I seek information on the real meaning of the definition "isolated student". What type of student will have priority for accommodation and hostels under this definition?

Mr TUBBY: There are two categories of isolated student: Firstly, a child living in excess of 56 kilometres from a school, and secondly, a child living at least 16 kilometres from a school and more than 4.5 kilometres from a school bus pick-up point.

Mr RIPPER: This clause will delete the definitions of high school and primary school. The interactions of various clauses in this Bill may mean that primary school students cannot be accommodated in hostels. Technically, under current legislation, primary school students can be accommodated in a hostel, although I doubt any of them are. Has the authority ever accommodated primary school students? Will it be permitted to do that under this legislation?

Mr TUBBY: Yes, some primary school students have been accommodated by hostels in the past, but it has been an insignificant number. Under this amendment they will still be able to be accommodated, but the priority is to secondary school students.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 5: Section 7 amended -

Mr RIPPER: This clause will allow the Minister to enrol other classes of students who, technically, are presently prevented from being accommodated in a hostel. What demand projections does the authority have? For example, does the authority have projections for the additional number of students who may be able to be accommodated as a result of this legislation?

Mr TUBBY: There has not been a great demand in the past by TAFE students for the utilisation of the hostels. However, a number of students at hostels who were undertaking their secondary education have gone on to TAFE colleges and have requested permission to remain at the hostels, and that permission has been granted. Northam has a large TAFE centre - the C.Y. O'Connor College of TAFE. The authority has two hostels in Northam and one is completely vacant. We would like to incorporate TAFE students into that hostel to better utilise the C.Y. O'Connor college.

Once the legislation is passed, the Government will be able to advertise for that. The Catholic Education Commission of WA is keen to provide opportunities for students in Albany. We hope that will also increase the opportunities for students to enrol in the Albany hostel. The Government does not have any statistical projections. We anticipate there will be a demand if we are able to advertise and take advantage of the opportunities that exist for underutilised facilities.

Mr RIPPER: Other hostels are not under the control of the authority. For example, I am advised that a hostel accommodates students who attend Kent Street Senior High School. Does the authority feel competition from people establishing hostels in the metropolitan area that are adjacent to high schools - perhaps with specialist programs - that are able to offer better facilities than some high schools adjacent to authority hostels? Does the authority have any intention to establish a metropolitan hostel?

Mr TUBBY: The hostel in Victoria Park is excellent. I attended the opening of it. Having spent two years of my life at Swanleigh hostel, I was amazed at the facilities that are now provided at metropolitan hostels. The Victoria Park hostel is a marvellous facility. However, many students who have attended there in the past have been eligible to receive the isolated children's allowance. I believe that will no longer be the case. Hostels may come under increasing funding pressure. If that is the case, there is nothing to stop the Government providing assistance under this legislation to students at that hostel in the same way as it does to country hostels.

Mr Ripper: Do you mean that under this legislation you could subsidise that hostel?

Mr TUBBY: Yes. At this stage it does not look as though the situation will come to that; however, if the hostels came under pressure in the future, the Government could do that under this legislation.

Mr Ripper: Hostels would have to come under the wing of the authority before they could be subsidised?

Mr TUBBY: That has not been considered, but we could operate under a contract arrangement with a hostel. There is nothing to stop facilities being developed in the metropolitan area. However, the Government has no intention of doing that at this stage. It is concentrating on the regional centres.

Mr RIPPER: How is the weekly accommodation fee set? The annual report contains an interesting table that shows the fee has not leapt ahead of the inflation rate. However, that demonstrates only that it is being set on a historically consistent basis. I am interested to know how the Government works out what is a reasonable rate to charge parents for the accommodation of a child. For instance, does it calculate it on estimations from the Australian Institute of Family Studies on the cost of raising children, or on another basis? It is a vexed area. There are many different figures for what is considered an appropriate cost for the raising of children.

Mr TUBBY: The Western Australian Institute of Technology undertook a study eight or nine years ago to determine the cost of accommodating a student at home, and the authority has tried to maintain the fee at that level. It has gradually increased with CPI increases over the years, but that is used as the base.

Mr Ripper: Was that study privately commissioned by the authority?

Mr TUBBY: It was undertaken by WAIT for the authority. No doubt a report exists in the archives. Does the member want a copy?

Mr Ripper: It is probably out of date.

Mr TUBBY: It probably is because, although it has been used as the benchmark, adjustments have been made according to the CPI. Whether it is still in line, I do not know. Different pressures are involved. We are trying to keep the fees at the bare minimum. Parents come to us and say that \$50 a week is not fair and equitable. It is far above what it would cost them to keep their children at home because they are on farms and have their own meat and so on. It is a vexed question, but we try to keep it as low as possible to make the hostels as attractive as we can.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 6: Section 7A inserted -

Mr RIPPER: Clause 6 establishes the priority by which students are offered accommodation. I raised the possibility

that a large enrolment of lower priority students in one year might prejudice the enrolment of isolated students in subsequent years because continuing students have priority. How would the authority cope with that circumstance if, for example, a large number of lower priority students were continuing on at the hostels in Esperance or Northam?

Mr TUBBY: Each year a proportion of the students exits from the hostels. We know who they are and very early in the year we advertise the vacancies. Those from isolated areas have the first choice for enrolment. The association representing the parents of isolated children has been lobbying for years for parents to have the choice of applying to any hostel they like, or a number of hostels, to ensure that their children are enrolled. The problem is real, and it is one which most hostels would be delighted to face. The only hostels that come close to having to address that problem, at the present time, are at Narrogin and Albany.

Clause put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Report

Bill reported, without amendment, and the report adopted.

Third Reading

Leave granted to proceed forthwith to the third reading.

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr Tubby (Parliamentary Secretary), and transmitted to the Council.

BILLS (12) - ASSENT

Messages from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the following Bills -

1. Professional Standards Bill.
2. Acts Amendment (Auxiliary Judges) Bill.
3. Appropriation (Consolidated Fund) Bill (No 4).
4. Turf Club Legislation Amendment Bill.
5. Human Tissue and Transplant Amendment Bill.
6. Cement Works (Cockburn Cement Limited) Agreement Amendment Bill.
7. Western Australian Land Authority Amendment Bill.
8. Acts Amendment (Legal Costs) Bill.
9. Land Administration Bill.
10. Acts Amendment (Land Administration) Bill.
11. Water Legislation Amendment Bill.
12. Water Services Coordination Amendment Bill.

COUNTRY HOUSING BILL

Message - Appropriations

Message from the Governor received and read recommending appropriations for the purposes of the Bill.

APPROPRIATION (CONSOLIDATED FUND) BILL (No 3)

Second Reading

Resumed from 28 August.

MR BLOFFWITCH (Geraldton) [5.52 pm]: A significant amount of money has been allocated to sewerage projects throughout the State. Geraldton, like most country towns, has experienced major upheavals in its roads, backyards, side streets and other places. One of the problems encountered is that after the sewerage works have been completed and the roads have been repaired the condition of the roads is substandard. That part of the road that has been dug up for the sewerage works has a nice new bitumen surface; however, the section that was not touched by those excavations but has had a lot of heavy traffic usage - trucks, tractors and graders - has holes, bumps and humps and is left exactly as it is. The contractor has not quoted for the repair of the total road surface, only half the road. This

is causing a severe deterioration in the roads around Geraldton. The Geraldton City Council has said that it would like to be in a position to repair those roads - they are mainly council roads. However, its budget for the next two or three years has been allocated and did not include the sewerage works and the hacking about of the roads that is occurring.

As a matter of urgency we must start to look at what we are doing in the area of sewerage works because the situation will only get worse, not better. The roads will continue to deteriorate. Once again, even with the best of intentions with the sewerage project, it is the ratepayers who must pick up the tab. As a ratepayer, I know there is not enough money to go around for these sorts of things. We all know about the huge expense of roads to councils and unless they get some help from somewhere we will reach a point of no return with these roads, particularly around Geraldton where we might not get them back to the standard they were before the sewerage works were done.

Mr Riebeling: You should drive between Tom Price and Karratha. Then you will see a bad road.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: Tom Price and Karratha are on the national highway. Who is supposed to look after that?

Mr Riebeling: There was a promise at the last election that you would build one.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: Is there a road there?

Mr Riebeling: It is like a mule track.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: Geraldton has roads, and my point is that as a result of the sewerage project only half of the road is being repaired to an acceptable standard and the other half that was not excavated, although it has had tonnes of earth moving equipment driven on it, now has potholes and is in a deplorable condition. One can drive through the streets of Geraldton and see one side of the road in excellent condition and the other side in a poor condition. I have asked Main Roads Western Australia to look at this. Surely we can adopt a whole of government approach and allocate resources to these roads. Frankly, the City of Geraldton is not in a position to find the millions of dollars that will be necessary to bring the roads back to their original standard. I am not decrying the sewerage works. Geraldton was only 8 per cent seweraged, so the sewerage project is an excellent proposition and a wonderful thing. However, one of its downsides is the damage to our roads when they sink a pipeline on one side of the road and resurface only that side of the road. I ask the Government to look at that. I know it is happening not only in Geraldton but also in the suburbs of Perth; councils in Perth are having the same problems. We need at least to get Main Roads involved so that somebody is looking at the problems on a whole of government basis to address this issue. The problem will not lessen; it will be far more important as time goes on.

In general, the contractors involved in the sewerage works are excellent. They have gone the extra mile in a couple of little problems that people have brought to me about tiles that did not match and things that have not happened. In some cases they have replaced all the tiles, and in other cases have gone to extraordinary lengths to find replicas of the tiles that are missing. In general, the approach that they have adopted has resulted in a better standard than that which existed before, particularly with driveways and things like that. People whose driveways were not 100 per cent have seen how nice they look when they are finished with a newly tarred surface. In general, people are pleasantly surprised with the effort being made, whether by the Water Authority or private contractors.

Mr Riebeling: The member for Geraldton should look at the agreement Act for the steel plant to see how much revenue the council will dip out on. He should keep an eye on that.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: Is the member for Burrup referring to loss of rates and such things?

Mr Riebeling: Yes.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: It would not be any worse than the reduced rates they receive from utilities, companies such as CBH Ltd, port authorities and the like. They are built on some of Geraldton's prime beach area and the council receives no rates. The council receives about \$3 000 a year from CBH and my caryard pays \$6 000 a year for about one-tenth the property size. I agree with the member for Burrup. However, they are the concessions that we make.

I would not be averse to a long term view to provide a concession for five years; many business areas do those types of things. However, I would not favour a concession ad infinitum. Some benefits must come back to the City of Geraldton. State Governments think they are poor; however, they should look at the finances of a few of the city councils. They are in desperate circumstances and need to raise more money. Like the States, their share of the national cake has been depleted, and they are part of the drive towards the national competition policy. The State Government has been offered millions of dollars by the Federal Government; the councils have not. They keep asking me what their share of that will be.

Sitting suspended from 6.00 to 7.30 pm

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I am not criticising the sewerage works, but the damage done to the roads by those works is something the Government should seriously consider.

Mrs Roberts: The Speaker would agree with you.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I am glad about that.

I will refer to the proposal for an industrial site at Oakajee and I will do so from the perspective of someone who lives in the fair city of Geraldton. I have read Randolph Stow's *The Merry-Go-Round in the Sea* in which he describes the fun he had at Town Beach, Pages Beach and the old lighthouse. Unfortunately not a lot of that area is left. When people ask me why I am so keen on Oakajee, I tell them that I see it as an opportunity to bring back a little bit of that nostalgia. It is an opportunity to get a little bit of Geraldton back for the benefit of the people who live there. I can understand why the port developed in the way it did. Geraldton would not have existed without a port in the early days, and nobody can deny that.

I hope funds are forthcoming for the steel mill and that Oakajee goes ahead and, in doing so, more industry is attracted to that part of the coast and, in the longer term, some of the industry is attracted to Town Beach, the wharf and the lighthouse.

Mr Riebeling: Where will the windsurfing championships be held?

Mr BLOFFWITCH: There is only another 10 000 kilometres of coast on which those championships can be held! A little port will not make a big difference to the windsurfing championships.

Mr Riebeling: They say it is the best spot in the world for windsurfing.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I do not know where the harbour will be constructed; therefore, I cannot say what part of the coast it will affect.

Only a few people live in Oakajee. Approximately 35 500 people live in the local authority areas of Geraldton, Chapman Valley and Greenough, which make up the greater Geraldton area. I would like to see those people get back not only their recreation area, but also a quality of life that is worth pursuing.

Mr Riebeling: What recreation area have you lost?

Mr BLOFFWITCH: We have lost the beach, including Pages Beach at which the marina has been extended. The beach by the yacht club has all but gone and a lot of infrastructure which is needed has been built there. I hope we get an opportunity to relieve the pressure by, in the longer term, developing in a northward direction.

I say unequivocally that I am totally in favour of the amalgamation of the local authorities of Chapman Valley, Greenough and Geraldton. The ratepayers of the Geraldton City Council have found that they will contribute \$4.8m towards the swimming pool which will cost \$6.5m. The Greenough Shire Council will contribute approximately \$50 000, yet 45 per cent of the population of the greater Geraldton area is from the Greenough electorate. However, that is what that council will contribute towards the facility that the majority of their ratepayers will use. The younger families reside in the Shires of Greenough and Chapman Valley and the schoolchildren in those areas will use that facility. As those councils were not included in the original planning, they have decided to contribute very little or nothing to the facility and the main cost will fall on the people of the Geraldton City Council. The Shire of Chapman Valley has decided not to contribute anything to that facility. This illustrates the dilemma that faces the City of Geraldton.

In addition, each year \$100 000 is required to subsidise the Queens Park Theatre. That money is provided by the Geraldton City Council, not the Shires of Greenough or Chapman Valley. However, the people from those shires use the facility as much as the people from the Geraldton City Council. The rates paid by the people who use the facility should be directed towards supporting that facility. This is a classic example of where urgent consideration should be given to this situation.

In considering the future of Greenough and Geraldton we should look several years down the track. With the Oakajee project I am looking 20 to 30 years down the track.

Where is the greater Geraldton area? What do we need for a city centre? What do we need for a rate base? We need to be a bit bold about these matters.

Mr Riebeling: That is not likely to happen with this Minister!

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I think it will, because I have confidence in the Minister. We will draw the lines with a bit of a splurge, and I am sure the benefits will be many.

I turn now to a problem with the Builders Registration Board. A chap in Geraldton is licensed to build sheds worth up to \$10 000. A person must be a licensed builder in order to build sheds worth over \$10 000. Most of the sheds that are being built today in the Geraldton area are worth \$14 000 to \$15 000. Consequently, this chap is being excluded to an increasing extent from being able to even tender for the construction of those sheds.

This chap applied for a building licence and outlined his experience in building sheds. He can build farm sheds, but in order to build sheds within the residential area, he must have a building permit. His application for a licence was rejected on the ground that he did not have sufficient experience, yet three other people who applied under the same circumstances were given a licence. This fellow who has a business in Geraldton and is a bona fide shed builder was refused a licence, but over the past two years his three competitors have been given a licence, so they can legally tender for these bigger projects, but he cannot tender.

I have spoken to the Minister's department, but, as members will know, boards such as this are autonomous and cannot be told what to do -

Mr Riebeling: Is that because he could not comply with the rules?

Mr BLOFFWITCH: No. It was because the board did not think he had sufficient experience to be given a licence.

Mr Riebeling: He could not prove it?

Mr BLOFFWITCH: He did, and I saw the documentation that he sent in, which the board said was not sufficient, yet another fellow, who used to be a truck mechanic and who bought a business and within a week applied for a licence, had his application approved. The fellow who had no experience had his application approved, yet the chap who had been in business for six years was told that he did not qualify. The Minister suggested that we could raise the level to \$20 000. Why do that? If this fellow wanted to quote on a \$25 000 job, I would need to have another whinge about why he was not able to do that. This chap is in the shed making business. Who makes these laws?

Mr Riebeling: You do - the Government!

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I did not have any say in how the Builders Registration Board was set up. I am not all that happy with the decisions that the Builders Registration Board has made in a number of cases, not just this one, and I am not all that happy with the fact that in many cases when people go to it with queries they seem to get messed around a lot. I have had to intervene on many occasions to try to get a bit of justice for people. It is a bit like having Dracula run the blood bank. I wonder whether it is the right way to go. I know that industry keeps saying that it should regulate itself, but we need to look at the results and at how fair they are to the people with whom the board deals. Disturbing reports are coming through, and we need to look at the plight of this fellow and ensure that justice is done. I ask the Minister to follow up that matter, because it is a serious concern. Small business is finding it tough enough at the moment without these sorts of restrictions being put upon it.

[Leave granted for the member's time to be extended.]

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I turn now to the proposed marina development in Geraldton, which has been on the drawing board for about 12 years. I am pleased that seven or eight prestigious houses have been built as part of the marina complex, but as yet no other development has taken place. I am told that by February next year, tenders will be called for the hotel, the commercial space and the other residential areas. This is a classic example of why a government department should not run a development. I am not making an absolute criticism of the Mid West Development Commission, because it was given almost a mission impossible when the development first got off the ground, but 12 years is just too long for an area to remain a desert.

There has been a change of plan with regard to the location of the museum, which the Government has generously given to Geraldton, so that it will be on the ocean side rather than in the backblocks. That is a positive move -

Mr Riebeling: These things cost money. If you do not give them money to run the facilities, they get into strife.

Mr BLOFFWITCH: I think it was due to the change of plan. Under the original plan, the museum would have been located near the railway station, but it will now be located on the waterfront, which is a far better idea. However, many of the services that had already been provided were not in the right place, so the plan had to be changed again and we had to go back to local government and the State Planning Commission, which decided that in order to sell them we had to test the soil and water, and it is just going on and on. We need to sympathise with the frustration of the business community of Geraldton after 12 years of looking at this barren land.

Mr Riebeling: Is it that long?

Mr BLOFFWITCH: Yes. Jeff Carr was the Minister at the time, and I commend him for his vision. I am sure he rolls over in his bed when he sees how little progress has been made. I am confident that by next year we will start

to sell off some blocks. All I was saying was that when any government department is involved in doing something like this, it seems to take a long time.

Mr Riebeling: All of the coastal development in the northern part of Geraldton has occurred over the past five years or so, has it not?

Mr BLOFFWITCH: No. The planning for the marina started about eleven and a half years ago when the shunting yards were knocked down and the railway lines were moved. Those things have been done. I just hope that by February next year, we will see a change, because the view is a bit monotonous. I am confident that when the marina is completed, it will be a very positive project, and I am confident also that we will all be proud of and happy with the museum. I support the allocation of money contained in this Bill, and I hope that some of it will find its way to my electorate for some of the projects I have mentioned tonight.

MR RIEBELING (Burrup) [7.50 pm]: I support the Bill and the allocation of \$70m contained in it. However, I think that some of the money should be spent in a slightly different way. Firstly, I am disappointed that an allocation has not been made to road funding, especially in the north. As the member for Geraldton indicated earlier, the sewerage system in Geraldton is causing problems for road construction. However, as I said by way of interjection, it is far better to have a road that has deteriorated slightly than a road in the condition of the one between Karratha and Tom Price. Recently I had the misfortune of needing to travel between Karratha and Tom Price. I should say that it was fortunate for me to visit Tom Price because that is always enjoyable. However, driving from Karratha to Tom Price and then back in one day on the access road is not a pleasant experience. My experience that day was like that of thousands of people in the Pilbara every year. Unfortunately, my vehicle blew two tyres during that trip. The tyres were brand new, so they did not blow as a result of bad maintenance; it was because the road was in such poor condition. As a result of that trip, I had to buy another two brand new tyres. One can multiply that cost by the number of people who use the road and incur more substantial damage such as differential or undercarriage damage. At one stage of the trip, I drove for about 8 kilometres with the ridge that develops in these roads scraping on the undercarriage of my car continuously. There are large rocks and other obstacles along that road.

As I have said in the past, the road was the subject of major promises by the coalition parties during the last election. Many people in Tom Price believed those promises, and they were kept to some extent, because an allocation of some funds has been made for a consultant to consider the proposed route of that road. I have discussed with the consultant what I consider to be the needs of the Tom Price community. It is clear from discussion with people in Tom Price that there has been talk about bringing the road to a point near Tom Price but not actually into Tom Price. That suggestion is not acceptable to the people of Tom Price, because they look forward to the long term benefits of a road of that type. The proposed road must begin at Tom Price and head towards the coast. There is no great imperative for the road to finish at Karratha; it should finish somewhere between Karratha and Roebourne. However, there is a huge desire for the road to begin at Tom Price, not 20 km from that town. The reason for that option is mainly generated by small business which considers that when the road finishes at Tom Price - which will not be for a number of years - it will guarantee that Tom Price will be a resource based town for access to the Karijini National Park. That assumption is probably correct. If the road bypasses Tom Price, the long term viability of Tom Price will be in jeopardy, and the Government should avoid that at all costs.

I had hoped to see an allocation to health in this Bill. Last time this House sat, I raised health concerns relating to two children in the one family. Yesterday and again this morning I spoke to the Press about a lady who experienced problems with her pregnancy. She is having her second child, and because the first birth resulted in a caesarean section, she took the precaution of visiting her doctor early and ensuring that everything was done to guarantee that a normal birth would ensue. Her general practitioner decided some time ago that a caesarean section would be required for the second birth. An appointment was made for her to see a visiting gynaecologist when he came to town - and he visits on a rotating basis. The specialist examined the lady, considered her history, and agreed that she needed a caesarean section. He decided that the birth would take place at two o'clock that day. She was sent to admit herself to hospital, and to be prepared for a caesarean section that afternoon. Unfortunately, when she was about to be admitted, the nurse said that due to staff shortages in the nursing area, the woman could not be admitted. There was insufficient nursing staff to man the operating theatre. Therefore, the lady was told she would have to drive herself to Port Hedland for the birth. For the benefit of anyone who does not know, Port Hedland is 250 km north of Karratha by road. After advice from the specialist, the woman and her husband jumped into their non-airconditioned vehicle and drove to Port Hedland. She was admitted to the Port Hedland hospital and a caesarean section was undertaken that afternoon.

The husband told me that he was very happy that the birth had gone as well as it had. His concern was, firstly, that specialists visited Karratha; a specialist had been flown from Perth to Karratha, at great expense to the management of the health system. However, the town did not have sufficient nursing staff to fully utilise the skills of the specialist. This was not a case of a lack of doctors in the Pilbara - which is normally the case. We had the right doctors but we

could not utilise their skills in the hospital because there was insufficient nursing staff. I understand that at times there are problems with rostering and with sickness. I understand that those situations must be managed. However, when at some expense a gynaecologist surgeon visits the region, and the clients who justify his visit must be turned away, it indicates a more significant problem.

The woman's father expressed grave concern because his daughter had been sent on a 250 km trip, when she was nine months pregnant, and when a specialist had said that she required a caesarean section that day. His problem was that the husband was ill-equipped to deal with any sort of emergency, let alone a caesarean section birth. Few fathers in this place are equipped to deal with such emergencies; that is, a case in which the GP and specialist identified that problems could occur with the birth. The woman should have been admitted to the hospital and transferred the 250 km by ambulance. This would have cost the State some money, but it would have given a great deal of confidence to the parents of the mother, the mother and her husband.

I had another call following the birth to advise me that the mother had been told that she could travel back to Karratha the following day to rehabilitate. That seems reasonable. However, she was told that she would have to drive back to Karratha herself. She had to jump in an unairconditioned vehicle with a one-day-old baby, no doubt in a great deal of discomfort, presumably in the back of the family car. I left that problem for the hospital to see whether it was possible to transfer the mother between hospitals by ambulance, which is the normal means of transport. It is being considered, but I have not yet received a response on the outcome.

That is an example of what people in the Pilbara must put up with daily. When allocating extra moneys from the consolidated fund, it is vital that whatever the allocation - albeit small in this case - it should be directed to areas of greatest need, and not to areas for which the Government forgot to allocate money in its previous budget considerations.

I now turn to another issue for discussion at greater length. I am sure that the Government knows about this problem, and the Deputy Premier definitely knows about it - I am glad he is in the Chamber as he may be able to respond from his seat to the points I raise. A problem of an acute shortage of residential land has developed in Karratha. The demand for residential land associated with potential developments has been identified in a number of government documents and reports. A report produced in February called "State Planning Strategy" identified the potential for residential development in Karratha. It released a report and a number of brochures regarding those problems.

The Government states in these documents that when gas prices were reduced, the great potential for investment in projects in Karratha was estimated to range from \$10b to \$15b. That projection did not include developments in the gas industry, but purely industries which have taken it upon themselves to take advantage of the opportunities presented by lower gas prices.

However, that \$10b to \$15b worth of development appears to be some distance away. The Minister responsible for industrial development indicated about four months ago that he thought the AUSI Steel project would start work in some 12 months, and he said that small business should start to gear up to take advantage around that time of the ideal opportunity which lay before it. I have heard in the past week or so that perhaps that is not the case, and that AUSI Steel is looking less likely to occur than it did six months ago.

The only real development on the horizon in the Pilbara region is in the gas, oil and petrochemical industries, which have a very bright future. All in the area hope that they develop further. We also hope that the AUSI Steel, and projects of that nature, arrive on our doorstep so the area can take advantage of associated development. The information I have received is that the project will probably not eventuate, which is very disappointing. If one takes away that project and considers only the developments we know about, such as those in the oil and gas industry, the requirement for residential land is still massive.

Currently, two native title claims apply over the vast majority of usable land in and around the townsite of Karratha. One claim covers the whole area excluding the townsite, and another covers the whole area including the townsite. The Roebourne Shire Council is progressive and has already been dealing with the Aboriginal people. It came to a very good settlement for both parties in relation to land involved with the redevelopment of the Karratha Airport. That redevelopment proposal went ahead quickly through negotiation. However, the Government is telling the Department of Land Administration that it can negotiate with Aboriginal people, but it is not allowed to negotiate for any settlement involving money. The council is suggesting to the Government that it has witnessed what no negotiation has achieved for the area; that is, a bloody disaster. Almost no blocks of land are available for residential development in the Karratha area.

[Leave granted for the member's time to be extended.]

Mr RIEBELING: The price of residential land in Karratha has increased by 300 per cent over the past two years. This is not because all of a sudden people realise the true worth of land. The Pilbara is a vast open space, and the

one thing we are not short of is land. The shire has requested that it be appointed as a mediator between the Government and the land council. I understand that the land council is seeking between \$400 and \$500 a block for the land about which the council wants to negotiate. Some people might think that that is a lot of money; however, last week a residential block of land in Karratha sold for in excess of \$90 000.

That simple block of land in the middle of the desert at Karratha sold for that amount not because the land is worth that but because no land in Karratha is available for development. This Government has allowed that situation to occur purely because it does not wish to negotiate with the land claimants. I have a number of plans for anyone who wishes to look at what the council is proposing. Basically the council is saying to the Government that within the existing boundaries of the town of Karratha are a number of areas that can be redeveloped without going outside the boundaries and without involving the two claimants. The council is saying that 300 lots of land could be identified now, which means that no extra land outside the town boundary would be asked for. The council has also told me that it understands that the claimants of the land are more than willing to talk to the Government but only on the basis of some sort of compensation. If the Government thinks that it can negotiate with any group for a return of zero dollars, I am afraid it will never be able to negotiate any settlements on behalf of the people of Western Australia. If the 300 blocks of land are released as a result of negotiations through the shire, the extra, say, \$500 payable a block, if 200 or 300 blocks are released, will result in a reduction in price of between \$20 000 and \$30 000. The people of Karratha would be more than happy to see the price of land go up by \$500 a block, especially when they see a reduction in the overall cost of the land of some \$20 000 to \$30 000.

A number of people have speculated massively in land in Karratha to the point where two or three individuals own the vast majority of non-developed land in the Karratha region. Some might say it was a clever plan which would make those individuals a considerable amount of money. They definitely chose the right time to invest and are making huge profits. Absolutely no-one objects to their making a reasonable amount of money, but the amount of money they are making as a result of the inaction of the Government and the Department of Land Administration is becoming obscene. The vast majority of people in my area object strenuously to people making huge amounts of money and driving builders out of the region because they cannot access land. Karratha is going through a mini boom in housing. It getting ready for the steel plants that may or may not come. Investors of money have been listening to the Government and the talk of boom in this region for so long that they suspect it must be on the horizon. The Government was elected on the basis of better planning and management. I am sure that was the catch cry.

Mr Bloffwitch: It was. We did not bring in the legislation on land rights but we must live with it.

Mr RIEBELING: What the Government has done and continues to do is to refuse to negotiate because for some reason it thinks title will be extinguished.

Mr Bloffwitch: The Government would have to negotiate with anybody who puts in a claim.

Mr RIEBELING: There is one claimant in the town of Karratha. To achieve clearance of title, as the member will know, the Government needs to negotiate a settlement with that claimant. If we sit back, as this Government has, and do nothing for years because we do not agree with the current law, we will get nowhere. The Government might not agree with Mabo but the simple fact is that it is part of the law. A lot of people do not like parts of our law but they still comply with them. The Government has said it does not like the decision so it will not do anything about it and will blame it for its inactivity. DOLA has had the capacity for at least two years. About two years ago the Government identified those problems in these documents. What has it done? It has done absolutely nothing. It has allowed prices in housing to get to a point where it is turning away builders in Karratha. The builders to whom I have spoken are dead keen to continue as quickly as possible because they think that AUSI Steel is about to occur, which is probably not the case. The simple fact is that the building industry chugging along at its present strength is very good for local employment and for long term investment in Karratha. That is pleasing and adds stability to the area. However, we are getting situations where the price of land and the non-availability of land which go hand in hand are causing people to rethink long term commitments to Karratha. If tomorrow an AUSI Steel was announced for Karratha, one would hope the long term impact would be positive. However, it would create an absolutely massive crisis in housing. We would have to look at housing 7 500 people, according to government papers, in a market where no rental accommodation is available now. We have at the moment about 11 000 people in Karratha. Another 7 500 people, almost double the population, need to be planned for.

During the last boom in the boom and bust town of Karratha the Government and planners talked a lot about not letting it happen again and not relying on caravan parks. Each of the four caravan parks in Karratha holds approximately 600 people. We cannot rely on them. The catch cry was, "We need a better plan", but there is no evidence of it. The only better planners have been the council which has put forward proposals because it knows what will happen in another year or so if the AUSI Steel project occurs. The council is putting forward plans and saying, "Let us be the negotiators and we will fix the problem." DOLA and the Government are saying, "No, we do not want you to negotiate. We will negotiate; our negotiating position is that we will not negotiate because we do

not like the law. We will wait until there is a crisis point" when people blame the Aboriginal people to such an extent that the situation becomes explosive. It is headed that way. The Aboriginal claimants are not asking for an exorbitant amount. They are talking of between \$400 and \$500 an approved block to be paid into a trust account for the betterment of all Aboriginal people.

Mr Bloffwitch: For all we know, the family may have no native rights claims. We have had eight or nine claimants in Geraldton. The elders told me, "Four we have never heard of before." Are we supposed to deal with those people first?

Mr RIEBELING: The body to deal with it would be the Native Title Tribunal.

Mr Bloffwitch: How long does it take? You have told me that two years later people have not been through the tribunal.

Mr RIEBELING: Two years later DOLA has not spoken to the claimants. In that situation I would like the member for Geraldton to tell me how long it will take to negotiate a settlement when one party refuses to speak. Will it take 10 years, 50 years or 100 years? If one party refuses to negotiate at all -

Mr Bloffwitch: If you want to stop it going to the tribunal, you can negotiate a settlement; if you do not, the tribunal is supposed to be there to ascertain whether the person is a bona fide claimant.

Mr RIEBELING: In my view the Government is there to look after the betterment of Western Australians. If the Government thinks that not negotiating and causing huge housing shortages in the Pilbara is in the best interests of Western Australia, it is absolutely wrong. The problems it will cause will far outweigh any benefits we might get in the short term.

MR MARSHALL (Dawesville - Parliamentary Secretary) [8.20 pm]: This evening I will speak about a subject which I think has been overlooked by the Health Department. Although it does many fine things with its appropriation of moneys for the benefit of the community, I feel it is lacking in one area; that is, adults who suffer with the attention deficit disorder disability. Some people may find that acronym, ADD, unusual. They may wonder what it means. Some may have heard of it, while others do not believe that disorder exists. I know it exists.

Some years ago in my early days in this Parliament, by chance I went into the Estimates Committee which was considering the disability services budget. I incorrectly asked where the allocation for ADD could be found. I was told that funding for that area was within the Education Department budget. In that year, 1994, I also scrutinised the budget of the Education Department. When it came to my turn, I asked where the money for the attention deficit disorder area was located. The senior person answering the question said that there was no such thing. I argued to the contrary.

Thirty-five years ago a youngster lived next door to me. He was a marvellous young kid who was very skilful in sport, but was lacking in his academic ability. I advised his parents to go to the headmaster of his school and say that something was not quite right in this boy's development; that he had coordination, but no ability to concentrate and could not work at school. Mr Speaker, I am talking about 35 years ago, and I know that having been a principal of a school, you will understand what I am talking about. At the time, the headmaster of the school said that there was nothing wrong with this lad.

During the Estimates Committee hearing I asked the senior officers of the Education Department what was being done for those who suffer from ADD. There was still no money being allocated to it. It had been recognised that attention deficit disorder existed, but no money was being applied to it. I pleaded with them to look at the situation. Surely in 35 years, given the progress of this State in technology and every other area, senior officers must have recognised that one in three children have a problem with ADD. Fortunately that demand was recognised and \$1m went into the budget the following year to address ADD in schools.

Some members might claim that as a victory; however, it is only a drop in the ocean because far more than \$1m is needed to research this very important disability. This disability creates disorder within families. If the youngster is hyperactive, the family members will have trouble coming to terms with it. The father might work all day and the mother, generally, will look after the child. When the working partner comes home, that person will want a meal and to relax, notwithstanding that the parent who has looked after the child with ADD all day is worn out.

About three years ago I went to an ADD public meeting in Mandurah. It was one of the most emotional meetings I have ever attended. Some members might think that the end of the grand final when East Fremantle somehow lost to South Fremantle was an emotional occasion. That is nothing like the emotion affecting a family with a child suffering from ADD whom they do not understand. These children are not sick. They look great, but they have a problem at school and at making friends. The ADD script cannot be explained narrowly. Children who are affected by it display a wide range of behavioural problems. At this public meeting, I said that I would try to obtain some

help. People were crying. They were upset. They got up and referred to the number of divorces that had occurred in these families because of the upset caused by their having children with ADD.

I am pleased to say that over the past four years the coalition Government has recognised that need and is doing a marvellous job in trying to address it. There is still not enough money being spent on ADD, but at least it has been recognised, and I am proud of that. However, I am disappointed that nothing is being done for the adults with ADD. The primary school kid who lived next door to me 35 years ago is now aged 47 years, and he still has ADD. Not all adults suffering the effects of ADD have been recognised. These people wonder why they get emotional, why they cannot keep a job, why they are overweight or why they have little or no discipline. We have a health hazard into which not enough money is going and about which not enough research is being done, with inadequate support from the Health Department and the community in general.

There is evidence to support the claim that most regular drug abusers and criminals suffer from ADD. Of all drug abusers, 40 per cent have untreated ADD. Many people believe the figure is closer to 60 per cent. Children suffering from ADD disrupt the family home, schools, shopping centres and playgrounds, but adults with ADD disrupt society in many other ways. It has been claimed that it results in family violence, alcoholism, drug abuse and gambling. The lad with ADD who lived next to me has a gambling problem. Adults with the ADD disability cannot come to terms with their lack of understanding. Their parents do not want to recognise it and the Government and health authorities are not recognising ADD by providing assistance to those adults who suffer this disability.

Other areas can be attributed to ADD, although no one area can be applied to any specific person. These are generalisations. Adults with ADD have been involved in car stealing, vandalism, crime, whether it be petty or major, and sexual abuse and are unable to read or write - a very common problem. They are unable to spell other than phonetically. Let us take the word "phobia". Some people with ADD would spell it with the letter F because they cannot recognise that the letters PH when together are pronounced in the same way as the letter F. Some school teachers, knowing there is a problem, have not asked whether the child has a problem with ADD.

Adults with ADD have extreme mood swings. I have never had much involvement with adults with ADD, but I know they exist. The adults with ADD are often involved in verbal violence, physical violence and suicide because they cannot cope. They are constantly having to lie or to exaggerate. If children have difficulty making friends, they wonder where they belong. To address this problem, they start to lie and exaggerate to keep pace with others. People with ADD do not trust themselves or others. They are a little shy and stay on their own. Many of these phobias can be related to adult ADD. If we were to look at the statistics for motor vehicle accidents and offences, I am sure we would find that many of those who were involved in them would suffer the ADD disability. It is very important to understand that most of these people cannot hold regular employment. If they get a job, they will have to face people in the organisation, as well as in the community generally, who are bullies, those who want to give the person who does not do the job too well a hard time, and who make a mockery of the underdog. Of course, these young people who have a problem and do not know the cause, are set upon. They find it hard to hold down employment. Adult ADD is not all doom and gloom. There are many brilliant people with the disorder and they overcome the problem. It is interesting that many champion sportsmen have been diagnosed with ADD.

Many excellent people around the world are now studying the effects of adult ADD. It is clearly established that the disorder is hereditary, and there is little evidence to show that it occurs in any other way. Therefore, if people have a child at school diagnosed with ADD, they must have an adult at home with ADD. I am told the percentage is one in every five people, and if a child in the family is diagnosed with ADD, there must be an adult in the family with the same problem. The main fact that has come from all the work and study into adult ADD is that if people who regularly take drugs and commit crimes have ADD, when the disorder is properly treated the drug taking and criminal activity stop.

Most experts around the world now agree that ADD has the two distinctive forms of passive-inattentive and hyperactive.

Mr Riebeling: Whose study?

Mr MARSHALL: Is the member saying that it does not exist?

Mr Riebeling: No, I am just asking who did the study.

Mr MARSHALL: Does the member know anything about it?

Mr Riebeling: Yes.

Mr MARSHALL: Has he ever met anyone with it?

Mr Riebeling: Yes.

Mr MARSHALL: Does anyone in his family have it? What does he know about it? The member spoke before for 10 minutes, with an extension, on matters he thought were important. I am telling the member this is one of the most important things that must be fought for in this State, and I do not like the interjections from the member opposite. At least 5 per cent of the world's population have adult ADD, and that covers all ethnic groups. In Australia that represents almost a million people, and in Western Australia it represents 85 000 people. It is acknowledged that between 50 per cent and 60 per cent of all sufferers do not have any negative side effects. Only 5 000 people in Western Australia are officially diagnosed with ADD, so that leaves 40 000 who know nothing about it.

Most government departments, including police, health and justice, are aware of these findings. Unfortunately, most do not want to believe or recognise the information about adult ADD. It can be seen from the interjection by the member opposite that some people want to hide the facts and do not want this matter spoken about. I am telling the House that it exists.

I would like the Minister for Health to take up the challenge. I want him and the Health Department to acknowledge the existence of ADD in adults and to support services for adult sufferers throughout Western Australia. A program must be set up to spread the knowledge that if people have these difficulties in their lives they must consider the possibility of ADD as the cause. Unfortunately in most families the parents of these young adults and teenagers have not been educated about ADD. These people were regarded as slow learners, those who could not make it, rotund persons with no coordination, or people who could not spell, add up or do certain things. People over the age of 50 years do not understand the problem, and their children do not want to recognise there is a problem. Young adults in the community must go through life without any help or education on a simple solution for many of their problems. I challenge the Minister for Health and the health authorities to reopen the case and investigate the possibility of helping these people, financially and in any other fashion. These young adults in Western Australia who do not know they have ADD must be helped to get on top of their problem and their lives must be made better for the benefit of the community in which they live.

MR CARPENTER (Willagee) [8.45 pm]: I am pleased to be able to comment tangentially on one of the provisions in this allocation in relation to education. It also touches upon my shadow portfolio area of sport and recreation, because in the appropriation of the consolidated fund is an allocation of \$5m for the Western Australian Office of Non-government Education. This allows me to reflect upon a trend in education that is a subject of some debate among educators, particularly those in health and physical education.

Circulating at the moment in government and education circles is the Education Department's draft policy and guidelines for curriculum provision for 1997. It is a very large and comprehensive document and, when enacted as policy, it will have a far-reaching impact on the development of children's education in this State. In a sense, what I am saying rolls seamlessly on from the comments of the member for Dawesville, who referred to the allocation of funding in education. He spoke about social and physical development.

One of the recommendations in the draft policy and guidelines for curriculum provision is that primary and secondary schools should allocate a total of 120 minutes a week to teaching both health and physical education to students in years 3 to 10. That is a total of two hours a week for physical and health education. It might come as news to many members that this will constitute a significant change in the amount of time devoted to teaching in those two areas. When I was alerted to these plans, I cast my mind back many years to when I was at school and tried to remember how many hours were devoted to health and physical education in the upper primary and lower secondary school years. I believe it was considerably more than two hours a week in combination.

Consideration must be given to the importance placed on health and physical education by the educators, and in the draft education policy, under the heading "Definition & Rationale" is the following -

Health and Physical Education provides students with an understanding of health issues and the skills needed for confident participation in sport and recreational activities. It enables students to make responsible decisions about health and physical activity and to promote their own and others' health and well-being.

A total of 35 pages in that curriculum consultation draft of the Interim Curriculum Council report for 1997 are devoted to the importance of health and physical education for students and the general population. When assessing the importance of this issue, we must take into account the general trends evident in the community, and I am sure evident in the electorates of many members, in relation to children, young people and young adults. General health and lifestyle issues have become important social matters and matters for the Government.

Lack of organised participation in sporting and recreational activities, and indulgence in petty crime, drug taking and generally unhealthy lifestyle activities are matters of concern to the Government and the Opposition. I do not think it is exaggerating the point to say these are matters of increasing concern. One could roll into this the unacceptably

high level of youth suicide in Western Australia, and the general malaise that many people associate with the health issues among the young - physical, mental and spiritual.

The focus of attention on health and physical activity in schools is not misplaced. It must be studied closely by the Government when deciding whether the draft policy from the Curriculum Council should become reality in schools, whether we should be diminishing the amount of time devoted to teaching health and physical education and lifestyle issues, or whether we should at least be maintaining the amount of time devoted to those studies, perhaps even increasing them.

According to the figures with which I have been provided, in the current weekly allocation for government schools, approximately 180 minutes is devoted to physical education in primary schools - that is, three hours - and 50 minutes for health education. In sum, almost four hours of physical and health education is allocated in schools from year 3 to year 7. In government secondary schools 120 minutes is devoted to physical education and 55 minutes to health education. The Curriculum Council proposal will reduce by half the amount of time spent on physical and health education in primary schools and by a considerable amount - approximately a third - in secondary schools. The time will reduce from 230 minutes of health and physical education in primary schools and 175 minutes of health and physical education in secondary schools to a flat total of 120 minutes.

People from the schools system and people involved in sporting groups, such as the Western Australian Sports Federation and others, have approached me about this, highly agitated about the outcome. In particular they believe that students will be significantly less active in school time. I suppose it is obvious that if the amount of time allowed for students to be physically active in the school curriculum is reduced by 50 per cent, they will be significantly less active in school time. Most educators will re-affirm that has every possibility of affecting students' capacity to deal with the more intellectual pursuits.

Children who are more sedentary tend to perform less well than they might otherwise. Students will receive less instruction in physical and health education and subsequently have less opportunity to develop and apply sport and recreation skills. Sport and recreation skills go beyond merely the capacity to be able to pick-up, kick and throw a ball. Various other social skills and aspects of behaviour are developed through sporting activity and playing games, such as participation in structured games, rules, tactics and sportsmanship. These should be encouraged rather than diminished in our government school system.

Students will experience fewer options to engage in physical pursuits that encourage lifelong habits. They will be further restricted in their ability to cope with the social pressures of society and to avoid the increasing threats to individual health and wellbeing. For example, they will not be as well equipped to deal with the increased incidence of youth suicide and drug abuse, which I have already mentioned; increasing obesity levels among our young students, which is often reflected on and verified in various studies; and the general decline in fitness levels, which is also often commented on.

A great deal of research, including research in Western Australia, demonstrates the existence of declining health standards in our society, particularly among our youth. For example, research conducted by Dr Kate Steinbeck from the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital obesity and metabolism unit in Sydney showed that sedentary behaviour in children was one of the main causes of large increases in obesity in this age group. According to her study, about 40 per cent of children aged from seven to nine were regarded as inactive. This translated into figures which indicated that about 15 per cent of under 12 year olds were regarded as overweight or obese.

We need only project the age group we are talking about to appreciate that if that trend continues into adult life we will incur greater costs on our health and welfare systems. There is also evidence it is beginning to flow through into Australian society generally. I reiterate therefore that we should be very careful about pruning the amount of time available for health and physical education in the curriculum for our students in school.

I am sure the draft education policy was worked up after a considerable amount of investigation and research. It is also self-evident that when the education system and the education curriculum are under increasing pressure and more and more is expected of the schooling system something must give. Health and physical education looms as the soft target in that regard. When trying to cram more academic studies into a curriculum, perhaps the easiest thing to chop back is health and physical education and the time devoted to the arts, which is also considerably less than the time devoted to some of the other school subjects.

The potential of the problem is exacerbated in Western Australia now following restructuring of the Education Department's central office. The central office support has diminished and the superintendent's and the physical education consultant's position will no longer exist from 1998. That can only further devalue the role of health and physical education in the academic framework of schools. The draft framework will be finalised and released in 1998 for introduction in schools over five years from 1999.

However, the information provided to me indicates that some of the recommendations in the draft report are being enacted as policy already. In some schools in Western Australia the amount of time devoted to health and physical education is being reduced on the basis that it will be consistent with policy as it is about to be announced by the Government.

The capacity of government departments to promote positive attitudes and values towards a healthy, physically active lifestyle in children and adolescents will be compromised if the amount of time allocated for health and education in our schools is reduced by up to 50 per cent as planned. The positive impact that millions of government dollars spent on health and physical education issues has had to date - for example, the Physical Steps project, the school drug education program, the Be Active school and community project and the Aussie Sport unit, all of which are commendable - will be undermined. Funding will not have been well spent if the draft time allocation is mandated.

It goes without saying that a Government which takes a more holistic view of education of children would not want to reduce the impact of the very many projects and initiatives it has enacted in the school and education system in an effort to increase the physical, social and general academic wellbeing of the students within the system.

Unfortunately the Minister for Education is not here this week. I did not realise he would be absent. I urge the Government to reconsider seriously its position on these recommendations. Numerous experts in physical education for the young recommend that not only should the time that is allocated for health and physical education in the Western Australian state school system be maintained, but also, if possible, it should be increased. This increase need not necessarily come at the expense of diminished time associated with other pursuits. In fact, it would enhance the performance of students in a range of other subject areas at school. A position has been put to me by health and physical education experts that, where possible, all primary schools in the state school system should have a specialist physical education teacher. This possibility was floated some years ago. Some steps were taken in that direction, but at the moment the trend seems to be in the opposite direction. I realise budgetary problems constrain a Government and that other subject experts want more time and resources put their way. However, the Government would find its money and resources well spent if it decided to, if not increase, at least maintain and perhaps enhance by way of resources the time and capacity available to students in health and physical education in the government school system.

We do not want to see develop in our society a generation of very unfit children and people who have limited experience and knowledge of the benefit of organised sport through the school system; students who have little experience of or exposure to the subtleties of being involved in organised sport among their peers and who suffer physically, intellectually and probably mentally as a result.

Although the Minister for Education is not here tonight, I took the opportunity of raising this subject because I believe it is important. It is certainly important for health and physical education teachers in the state school system. I would like the Government to reassess its position on this matter as it looks at implementing the recommendations of the Education Department's draft policy and guidelines for curriculum provision.

MR THOMAS (Cockburn) [8.53 pm]: I will contribute to this debate on a matter that affects my portfolio as opposition spokesman for energy. Unfortunately my notes have been spirited away by my colleague the member for Eyre; however, I can make the speech without the material to which I hoped to refer. That material was the front page story of *The Australian Financial Review* on the weekend that referred to the impact on the Australian economy of the proposed treaties on reductions in greenhouse gases and the impact they would have on the States of Australia. Those who saw that newspaper on the weekend would note that it contained a map of Australia with Australia divided into two. It referred to the divisions as north and south - which was inappropriate in a geographical sense - with north being Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia and south being New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. It referred to the substantial impacts those treaties would have if they were to be implemented in the way that is proposed; that is, the effects on investment, the cost to the economies of those States and the number of jobs that would be affected.

We are talking about tens of thousands of jobs and hundreds of billions of dollars of investment in major projects that are foreshadowed. That is a matter of deep concern to Australia in two respects: First, as responsible citizens we want to ensure that any economic activity that occurs in our country minimises environmental impacts on the world. We are talking about global impacts, because what occurs in one country will invariably be felt throughout the world. Second, we are concerned that we are talking about something that could have a severe economic impact on Australia.

In that context we must look at what the national Government is doing to protect Australia's interests in these circumstances and, in particular, what input the State Government is having into national deliberations on these issues. The generation of electricity and the promotion of industrial development and areas such as these which affect directly the emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere fall within the responsibility of the State Government.

Ultimately it will be up to State Governments to implement whatever obligations are imposed on Australia as a consequence of the Kyoto conference and other deliberations that are taking place throughout the world on the greenhouse effect.

Members should make no mistake about it: There will be implications and constraints will be imposed on Australia's future development. The United States of America and the European Union, the two largest players in the world's economy and the biggest players in international diplomacy, have indicated that, if necessary, they will impose trade sanctions on Australia to force Australia to comply with international standards in this area. That is very serious. Time and again the Minister for Energy and for Resources Development, who unfortunately is not here today, has said how pleased he and the Government are about substantial successes in promoting the development of new projects. The Government is pleased about the promotion of energy projects and projected economic development in these areas. However, according to the weekend edition of *The Australian Financial Review*, if the international treaties come into effect, \$34b of investment in Western Australia will be prohibited. That will cost this State 55 000 foreshadowed jobs - the biggest impact by far on any one State. I expect it will be felt principally in the electorate of the member for Burrup.

Mr Riebeling: Over what period is that?

Mr THOMAS: Things that have been projected to occur in the short to medium term will not occur. We are talking about a serious matter. I have not heard one statement in this House by the Minister for Energy and for Resources Development or one statement in the public domain from the Government about what input the Government seeks to have into the deliberations of the Federal Government. The interests of Western Australia do not necessarily coincide with those of Queensland or the other States. An article in *The Australian Financial Review* linked Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland and suggested a conflict of interest depending on the implementation method used between those three States and South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania.

My reading of the proposed treaties, terms and arrangements able to be reached between the States suggests a very substantial opportunity for Western Australia to play a part in an international economy incorporating greenhouse treaties governing trade and relations between nations. The drafts I have seen provide that it is possible for credits to be transferred between countries and for countries to fulfil their obligations by transferring activities elsewhere in a more efficient manner.

How can that happen? A country in the northern hemisphere, in order to honour its obligation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, might decide to close down an older plant and replace it with a more efficient plant. It would be possible, for example, for Western Australia to suggest that it relocate its plant in this State. Those old steel mills might currently use coal as a reductant. If those plants were closed and replaced with plants in Western Australia using gas, which produces far less carbon dioxide per unit of energy per kilowatt hour than does coal, then it would be possible for that country to satisfy its greenhouse gas obligations without disadvantaging Australia in the reckoning of its greenhouse gas impact.

If the international regime is established as envisaged in the principal draft treaty that I have seen, there is a very substantial opportunity for Western Australia to take advantage of the situation and to promote itself as an environmentally clean and responsible place for industrial development, and we should seize that opportunity. We should also do what we can to promote the global environment and industrial development in this State.

What has been the Liberal Party's response at both the national and state levels? I have heard nothing from the state Minister for Energy and Minister for Resources Development, a person who in both capacities should be deeply concerned with what is probably the major issue in the world affecting those two areas of responsibility. I have not heard a word from him in this House nor have I read a word attributed to him elsewhere on this subject. Perhaps he is making contributions of which we are not aware, but there is no sign of them.

What is the Federal Government's contribution - the entity projecting Australia's interests in international forums? The position presented internationally by Mr Downer and the Prime Minister on this issue is totally discredited. From what I can see, Mr Howard's approach is to go to international forums and say that Australia is concerned about the greenhouse effect, that it recognises that less carbon dioxide should be emitted into the atmosphere, but that countries relying to a large extent on fossil fuels should be exempted. In practice that means that the Federal Government is saying that Australia is concerned and countries should not emit increased amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere unless they emit carbon dioxide into the atmosphere! The international community has worked it out and the Prime Minister has no credibility. The United States is talking about imposing trade sanctions, but Australia's stance has not changed.

To a certain extent, the Prime Minister's hands are tied by political considerations. The Minister for Resources

Development, Senator Parer, is from Queensland. I cannot see how Queensland can do anything but suffer to some extent; it is very significantly dependent on the export of coal. It is difficult to see how it will not be adversely affected as countries such as Japan wind back their use of steaming and coking coal, which they must do to satisfy their obligations.

Mr Riebeling: Does power generated by gas meet the international standards?

Mr THOMAS: Less carbon dioxide is produced when generating electricity using gas. Gas and coal are both hydrocarbons but gas has more "H" and less "C", so less CO₂ is produced per unit of energy.

The Federal Government seems to be influenced by the fact that there are more federal seats in Queensland and more people in Queensland who will be concerned. Instead of creatively approaching the treaty in a way that would assist places such as Western Australia, which can make a contribution to solving this problem and at the same time prosper economically, Mr Downer is vainly going to international forums and putting forward propositions that have no credibility. Where is the State Government in this matter?

Mr Bloffwitch: Over here.

Mr THOMAS: There we have it: The member for Oakajee!

If Taiwan, which imports coke and coal for the production of steel and which emits a large amount of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, were to say that it will attempt to maximise its economy with the greenhouse limits imposed on it by closing down some plant and replacing it with a steel mill at Oakajee -

Mr Bloffwitch: We are hoping.

Mr THOMAS: We are all hoping. If that plant used a clean fuel like gas as a reductant that emits less CO₂ into the atmosphere per tonne of steel that is produced that would be a win win situation. The member for Geraldton, sadly, is not well served by his representatives in the federal Parliament. Instead of going to the international forums and creating a situation where those opportunities exist the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister are running around the world bleating that Australia should be exempted. Why should Australia be exempted? We would all like to be exempted from onerous responsibilities. I have a number of onerous responsibilities from which I would not mind being exempted. However, we have onerous responsibilities cast upon us because it is important that they are fulfilled. A tonne of CO₂ that is emitted into the atmosphere in Australia - even though industry is important to Australia - is no less deleterious to the world's environment than a tonne of CO₂ that is emitted into some part of the world where industry is not as central to its economy. The environmental impact of that is precisely the same. Australia has only 17 million people and is a small country by world standards. We have a requirement that these international discussions are approached creatively and imaginatively to try to best protect the interests of Australia, and to do that in a way that is realistic and in a way that will protect the interests of the would be constituents of the member for Geraldton and the constituents whom the member for Burrup represents. That is not occurring. That is possibly through a lack of imagination. However, I suggest the more likely reason is that there are more federal seats in Queensland than in Western Australia.

Mr Bloffwitch: There always has been.

Mr THOMAS: That is right, member for Geraldton, and there still are more in Queensland than in Western Australia. Perhaps that will not always be the case, but for some time to come - for the life of this Parliament at least and probably the next couple of Parliaments after that. The Government needs to approach this in a creative manner. It is the responsibility of the State Government, the Minister for Energy, and the Minister for Resources Development to distinguish Western Australia's interests from those of Queensland if they can. I think that can be done. *The Australian Financial Review* article was probably correct in enumerating the jobs that are under threat. A clear distinction exists between the interests of Western Australia and Queensland. Although we do not wish the people of Queensland any ill will, if that opportunity exists for Western Australia we should seek to maximise the benefits for this State. That requires that the State Government approach this matter, perhaps by going directly to international companies when these regimes are established, and in the meantime preparing for it in order to maximise whatever opportunities are permitted for industrial development in this State.

MR JOHNSON (Hillarys) [9.13 pm]: I will address some issues and concerns about which many of my constituents have taken the trouble to talk to me. Some of the issues are matters about which I am concerned. I will take the opportunity this evening to address a variety of issues, one of which is the issue of tax reform - the goods and services tax or value added tax - because I probably have more experience of VAT than anybody in this Chamber. I ate, slept, drank and lived with VAT for many years. I want to dispel some of the rumours and scare tactics that members of the Opposition have put around.

Mr Riebeling: Do you support it?

Mr JOHNSON: Yes, I do support it. I will tell the member for Burrup about that in more detail in a moment.

Mr Riebeling: I hope you will go to the election on it.

Mr JOHNSON: I will be around at the next election, and I will be back on this side of the House and the member for Burrup will still be in opposition.

Ms McHale interjected.

Mr JOHNSON: I know the north of England very well. Some of the other issues I will address tonight relate to insurance premiums on property and the inequitable situation of premiums paid to the emergency services. There is a much fairer way of covering the fire brigades in particular. I will also cover some law and order issues. Law and order is probably one of the biggest issues; it goes on and on. I know that the Government has done a very good job so far in addressing some of it, but it can go still further. Along with many of my constituents I believe that the punishment should always fit the crime.

First of all, I will talk about tax reform. I agree with the Premier's comment that we have one chance in 100 years of reforming the tax situation in Australia. I believe the time is right now to do it. If we do not do it as we approach the twenty-first century we will never do it. Members should stop and think about the number of taxes in Western Australia.

Mr Riebeling interjected.

Mr JOHNSON: For the sake of my good friend the member for Burrup, when I first said to my friends in England that I was going to live in Western Australia -

Mr Riebeling: They were happy, no doubt.

Mr JOHNSON: As I said to the member for Peel, people in England were sorry to see me go. It might have been different for the member for Peel.

Many people said that Australia was a lovely country but it was one of the most overtaxed and over governed countries in the world.

Mr Riebeling: You are part of it now.

Mr JOHNSON: Yes, and it is still a fantastic country. However, I accept that it is probably the most overtaxed and over governed country in the world.

Mr Riebeling: Rubbish!

Mr JOHNSON: Members opposite say rubbish but how much have they travelled? I have travelled all over the world, including Europe, the United States, Canada and around Australia. We are overtaxed because our tax system is a shambles. Members opposite should count the number of different taxes we have: Income tax, capital gains tax, wholesale sales tax, fringe benefits tax, provisional tax, company tax, financial institutions duty, bank account debit tax, payroll tax, departure tax and that is just a few; there are others. There are many more taxes.

Mr Carpenter: Do you mean the number of taxes or the total tax take?

Mr JOHNSON: The number of taxes. It is time to reform the tax system. I am in favour of a GST or VAT. However, the proviso is that a GST can be introduced only if we save on other taxes; that is, if we reduce income tax. It is more important for people at the end of the week to have more money in their pockets. It is up to them whether they save that money. Let us face it, we are always being encouraged by Governments - the Labor Government when it was in power and this Government - to save money.

Mr Riebeling: Some people do not have enough to save.

Mr JOHNSON: That is rubbish. People in Australia have a good way of life. It is a fantastic country, a beautiful country, and Western Australia is the best place on earth. I have said it many times and I will say it again tonight.

Mr Carpenter: That is not what Ronald Biggs said about it.

Mr JOHNSON: He had to move on. The tax system needs reforming. I am not the only one who thinks this - everybody thinks it; even my colleagues opposite think the same. Members opposite believe that the tax system must be reformed. They must; they are reasonably responsible people. Although members opposite oppose whatever we try to do on this side of politics, deep down they know that tax reform must occur. The Leader of the Opposition even believes in a tax reform system whereby the States get a much fairer share of tax collected.

Mr Riebeling: That is not a GST.

Mr JOHNSON: Let me finish, member for Burrup. They say never show a fool or an idiot a half finished job because they never understand it. Members opposite should wait until they have heard all I have to say and if they want to criticise then they can.

Even the Labor side of politics believes that the States need a fairer share of the tax that is collected. The Leader of the Opposition is on record as saying that he believes we should have a share of the income tax. I do not disagree with him. We need a system of taxation in which the revenue grows in the States in the same way as it does federally.

Big savings could be made in some tax areas, including government expenditure. I would like the duplication between the State and Federal Governments done away with. This State delivers education, yet I am told that approximately 1 000 bureaucrats are employed in the federal Education Department. This State delivers a health system, yet I am told that between 6 000 and 9 000 people are employed in the federal Health Department. I do not believe any of them delivers a health service. None of them is a doctor or a nurse who actually attends to patients. Why do we need a federal Health Department other than for monitoring purposes? This State delivers an education system and it does a good job.

Mr Riebeling: The new federal Minister thinks we do not do a good job.

Mr JOHNSON: I will not criticise the new federal Minister. As the States deliver the service, there is no need for duplication. Massive savings could be made and that money could go into the States' Education budgets so it is delivered at the sharp end for the children who need the education.

I believe in the VAT system. It works and it is not the ogre that members opposite think it is. It depends how the VAT system is operated. We have to sit around the table with our federal counterparts and work out a good solution for going into the twenty-first century. I know VAT well. I lived with it when I operated a production company, wholesale company, distribution company and retail shops. I operated all of those in the United Kingdom and, from a business person's point of view, it is not a problem. It is a simple solution.

We live with a much more horrific wholesale sales tax system. My company must deal with wholesale sales tax and it is a nightmare at times. It can be abused far more than a VAT or goods and services tax system. If people want to abuse the wholesale sales tax system they can do so and get away with it. I have been made aware of some instances, particularly in the eastern States, where the wholesale sales tax system has been rorted. Under a VAT system, if someone wants to supply goods or a service and does so for cash for which he does not issue an invoice -

Mr Riebeling: They can still do that.

Mr JOHNSON: I just told the member for Burrup that one should never show an idiot or a fool a half finished job. The member has not let me finish. If a person receives cash for a job he does for which he has not issued an invoice, will he put the cash under his bed? No, he will spend it and when he does that at least VAT or GST is collected at that stage. Albeit it should have been collected at the previous stage, it eventually gets to the tax office.

Mr Riebeling: That is what you call drawing a long bow.

Mr JOHNSON: The member for Burrup probably does not have a lot of experience in tax issues. In the United Kingdom people would do jobs for cash and not bother to issue an invoice. At that stage of the tax chain the tax was not paid. The minute they got the cash they had to spend it on something. So the tax office did not lose out, albeit someone had broken the law. Tax checks are in place to try to catch those people, but the tax is eventually paid.

Mr Riebeling: No it is not. You do not understand the system.

Mr JOHNSON: I understand it very well. I have operated under the system for many years and I do not think the member has; therefore, I can speak with more knowledge on the subject than he can.

Mr Carpenter: A tax is eventually paid; the tax is never paid.

Mr JOHNSON: The tax is paid at the end.

Mr Carpenter: You understand now? You had better explain it to the people.

Mr JOHNSON: I understand it perfectly well. I have lived with VAT and I have spent a few years in this country working under the wholesale sales tax system. I understand it from a business point of view and I know that people rort the system. I reiterate that it would be fairer to reduce income tax so that people had more money in their wage package at the end of the week and would have the option of saving the money to buy a colour television, and they would then pay the GST or VAT.

Mr Riebeling: So you pay the same tax rate as someone earning \$20 000.

Mr JOHNSON: One would pay the same tax rate on the item one purchased. The member does not understand. One cannot say that the colour television will cost Mr Bloggs, who is earning \$20 000, \$20 in tax but Mr Millionaire will pay \$1 000 in tax. Is that fair?

Mr Riebeling: Do you think that is fair?

Mr Cowan: What is the wholesale sales tax on those goods now?

Mr Riebeling: On bread?

Mr JOHNSON: On a computer.

Mr Riebeling: About 24 per cent.

Mr JOHNSON: The member is not far out. On a television set the wholesale sales tax is 30 per cent and on a computer it is 22 per cent.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Ainsworth): Order! I have listened to the member for Hillarys on many occasions and I am convinced he does not need assistance with his speech. He is capable of speaking without assistance from members on both sides of the House. I ask members to at least interject one at a time to allow the member for Hillarys to respond if he wishes. He does not need the assistance he has been receiving.

Mr JOHNSON: Mr Acting Speaker, I thank you for your protection. I need protection from members opposite. I do not mind replying to the odd interjection, but it gets a bit much when the interjection is a lot of nonsense.

If income tax were reduced people would have more money in their pocket at the end of the week.

Mr Riebeling: How do you know that?

Mr JOHNSON: For goodness sake! I would hate the member to run my business. At the end of the day, if a VAT were introduced - I consider that a VAT is more sensible - we would have to do away with wholesale sales tax. A lot of people would be better off. Instead of paying 30 per cent for their television they would pay whatever rate was struck for a GST or a VAT.

Mr Riebeling: What would be a better rate to propose?

Mr JOHNSON: I do not know. If the member listened to me he would hear the argument. One must put all those taxes on the table and work out a fairer system than the one we have today. If the member thinks the system under which we operate is a fair system, I feel sorry for him because he is very short-sighted.

The other matter that I want to raise is insurance premiums for the provision of emergency services. I was a bit staggered when I saw the figures that I had been given about the number of people who have no insurance cover for their main residential property. Under the current system, a percentage of people's insurance premium is paid automatically to the fire brigade to cover most of its budget for fighting fires. However, it is a bit unfair that people who have not bothered to insure their home can get the fire brigade to come out, put out the fire and perhaps save their life when they have made no contribution to the fire brigade's budget.

Mr Riebeling: Are you suggesting that it should let their home burn down?

Mr JOHNSON: No. That may be the member's solution, but it is not mine. My solution is to implement a fairer system where the State Government imposes a precept rate on local government authorities to cover the expenses of the fire brigade so that everyone pays a fair share for the fantastic service that it provides in Western Australia.

Mr Riebeling: The vast majority of people have insurance. People with mortgages are required to take out home insurance.

Mr JOHNSON: That is correct, but 31 per cent of people do not insure their home.

Mr Riebeling: That is because they do not own their home.

Mr JOHNSON: Of course it is not; people do not insure a home that they are renting. Seventy-five per cent of tenants do not have contents insurance. Those figures came from the Insurance Council of Australia Limited. I find it appalling that people do not bother to insure their home. I believe that people have the right to choose whether to insure, because if their home catches fire and burns down, they are the losers, but they should pay something for the fire engines that put out those fires.

Mr Riebeling: Where did that figure come from?

Mr JOHNSON: From Daryl Cameron, who is one of the top people of the insurance council. I am happy to share those figures with the member. If the State Government imposed a precept rate on local authorities, it would cover the cost of providing emergency services, in particular the fire brigade. I would even go a bit further, because some local authorities in Western Australia, particularly in the metropolitan area, are considering charging their ratepayers an extra \$10 to \$15 a year to cover the cost of employing extra patrol officers to try to reduce crime. Bayswater City Council has implemented that system, and Wanneroo City Council is considering it, and I commend them for that, because it is a good proposition. However, I would prefer to have ratepayers pay a precept rate to allow the State Government to provide extra sworn police officers in each local government area, because although the council patrol officers and rangers do a good job, they will never be as good as sworn police officers.

Mr Carpenter: How would that work in underprivileged areas with a high crime rate?

Mr JOHNSON: It would have to be done throughout the State. The crime rate would be reduced if we incorporated that system.

[Leave granted for the member's time to be extended.]

Mr JOHNSON: That precept rate would cover the cost of providing emergency services, in particular the fire brigade, and also of providing extra police coverage.

Mr Carpenter: How would underprivileged owners or renters be able to afford that amount of money?

Mr JOHNSON: If it were in a low socioeconomic area that had predominantly rental accommodation provided by Homeswest, Homeswest would pay the money and it would be calculated on a percentage basis. If we had that system in place, I believe we could reduce the crime rate. In many of those areas, people have just managed to pay off their modest home and do not want, or cannot afford, to insure. If they were charged a small precept rate on their council rates to cover at least the fire brigade, they would be contributing their fair share if they had a fire. That works in other countries and I believe it would work here. We desperately need to look at that idea when 31 per cent of people do not bother to insure their home.

I turn now to crime and punishment, because many people in my electorate have come to see me about this matter. I want to bring to the attention of the House the comments of a person who I believe speaks a lot of commonsense on crime and punishment; namely, Kevin Moran, a former police superintendent, who has been a guest columnist in the *Sunday Times* on a few occasions.

People often say that capital punishment does not deter criminals. We need to look at countries that have kept statistics for many years, such as England and Wales. In 1956 when England stopped capital punishment, the crime rate soared to an unbelievable level.

Kevin Moran states in an article headed "Punish to fit crime" that -

I have dealt with many offenders over 35 years as a police officer, including six years as a prosecutor in children's and police courts.

Imprisonment and the fear of imprisonment has always had a deterrent effect on offenders. It is the lack of fear of imprisonment which is the problem.

He refers to the appalling conditions in prisons in the last century, and I think we all accept that they were appalling. He then refers to some "well meaning" people and states -

Their philosophies have permeated academia, the judiciary, government and departments involved in community care. These new-age moralists transfer responsibility for criminal actions onto everybody and everything except the criminal who is deemed the victim of society.

When countries do away with the ultimate punishment, which is capital punishment, every other punishment must be reduced. If we give a person 20 years' imprisonment for murder, we cannot give a person 20 years' imprisonment for a vicious assault or for aggravated burglary. All of those penalties must be reduced. That is what has happened, not only in this country but also in other countries. It is time that the pendulum swung back a little the other way so that people in society who commit dreadful crimes are given the punishment that they deserve.

Some terrible crimes have been committed lately: The young ladies in Claremont who were murdered, and all those people in Tasmania who were murdered by that madman. What right does that man have to live? He lost every basic human right when he murdered all those people. I believe, and I think the majority of people would agree, that people who commit murders like the person in Port Arthur do not have the right to live and that society would be doing the right thing if it terminated their lives. I do not believe in hanging because it is barbaric. However, I believe that a lethal injection is appropriate for someone who has committed 16 murders or any other number of horrific murders,

because that person would have lost every basic right to life. I hope that at some stage when the pendulum swings the other way - whether this year, next year, or in 10 years - it will come back this way, to the right, and that when people feel that they have had enough, society will look seriously at the possibility of that ultimate punishment for the many horrific crimes that are carried out.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr Cowan (Deputy Premier).

House adjourned at 9.40 pm

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answers to questions are as supplied by the relevant Minister's office.

TOURISM - COMMISSION*Events - Funding*

1437. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) In the 1996-97 financial year, how many events were provided with financial support through or on the recommendation of the Tourism Commission?
- (2) What was the nature of each event?
- (3) How much did the Government provide for each event?
- (4) In the 1997-98 Budget, how much is set aside for funding events during the financial year?
- (5) How many events will be provided with funding?
- (6) What is the nature of each event?
- (7) How much will be provided to each event?
- (8) Apart from the events where decisions have already been made to provide funding, is any other funding available for events which may be run during the financial year?
- (9) Has a global or contingency amount been allocated for this purpose?
- (10) What is that amount?
- (11) Have any additional funds been allocated for events other than those referred to above?
- (12) If not, does this mean that no funds are available from which the Government can provide financial assistance for other events that may seem appropriate?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following response:

- (1) 12.
- (2)-(3) In the financial year 1996-97 the following funds were provided to these events:

Event Funding 1996-97	Amount
Heineken Golf Classic	\$ 300 000
Rally Australia 1996	\$1 718 314
Rally Australia 1997	\$ 581 630
World Windsurfing Championships	\$ 85 000
Whitbread Round the World Race	\$ 291 905
World Aerobics Championships	\$ 117 000
World Darts Championships	\$ 20 000
World Track Cycling Championships	\$ 160 000
World Triathlon Championships	\$ 460 000
Margaret River Surfing Masters	\$ 15 000
Safe Ride Bike Classic	\$ 7 000
Hopman Cup	confidential
Festival of Tennis	\$ 10 000

There will be additional costs across all events such as research, contract arrangements and other management issues.

- (4) Approximately, \$5 million. A specific figure cannot be given due to the confidentiality clauses involved in a number of contracts.
- (5) Ten.
- (6)-(7) The budgeted amount for events in 1997-98 is as follows:

N.B: In some instances this is not the events total funding, as funding occurs over multiple financial years.

Event 1997-98	Amount
1997 World Track Cycling Championships	\$ 410 000
1997 Whitbread Round the World Race	\$ 500 000
1997 World Triathlon Championships	\$ 715 000
1997 World Windsurfing Championships	\$ 165 000
Rally Australia 1997	\$1 993 370
Rally Australia 1998	\$ 500 000
1998 Heineken Golf Classic	confidential
1998 Hopman Cup	confidential
1998 Margaret River Surfing Masters	\$ 15 000
1997 World Darts Championships	\$ 40 000

There will be additional costs across all events such as research, contract arrangements and other management issues.

- (8)-(9) No. However EventsCorp has a bidding and development budget which is available to bid for and develop new events. EventsCorp is constantly looking for event opportunities for the State. The agreed process is that once an opportunity has been investigated and a feasibility study presented to the Western Australian Tourism Commission, upon approval by the Commission, a funding submission is forwarded to the Minister for Tourism for presentation to Cabinet. Should Cabinet consider the event should be staged in Western Australia, then funds will be made available.
- (10) Not applicable.
- (11) No.
- (12) Should opportunities be located, EventsCorp will, following a feasibility process seek supplementary funding from Cabinet. All events that the EventsCorp executive believe should be staged undergo a stringent feasibility process. Once satisfied that the feasibility matches the criteria required to justify an involvement, the recommendation is put to the EventsCorp Advisory Board, which decides if the recommendation should be forwarded to the Western Australian Tourism Commission. The Commission considers the recommendation and will approve or otherwise that the funding submission be forwarded to the Minister for Tourism for his consideration, and presentation to Cabinet. Cabinet decides to approve or not the Funding Submission. On approval, funding will be provided by Treasury, generally on the basis as set out in the Submission.

SPORT AND RECREATION - ATHLETICS WEST

Funding

1628. Dr CONSTABLE to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

- (1) What was the budget of Athletics West in each financial year since its establishment?
- (2) What is the current budget of Athletics West?
- (3) For each financial year since its inception, what other funds has Athletics West been responsible for, including sponsorship and Healthway grants?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

The Minister for Sport and Recreation has provided the following response:

The following information has been extracted from financial reports provided to the Ministry of Sport and Recreation.

- (1) The budget for Athletics West was as follows for the listed financial years -

	Income	Expenditure
1992-93	\$227 141	\$ 98 688
1993-94	\$276 483	\$274 976
1994-95	\$266 451	\$256 321
1995-96	\$346 166	\$341 597
1996-97	\$333 544	\$279 171 (unaudited)

- (2) The Ministry of Sport and Recreation is not in receipt of a current 1997-98 budget or grant application from Athletics West.
- (3) Financial reports from Athletics West do not differentiate between Healthway or other sponsorship grants. Other income cost centres include interest, projects development and sundry income. Healthway have advised the following approvals were made -

1993-94 Athletics Development Program	\$ 67 400
1994-95 Athletics Development Program	
Approval \$200 000	(\$30 000 paid 94-95) (\$170 000 paid 95-96)
	\$ 30 000
1995-96 Athletics Development Program	\$170 000
Part of \$200 000 94-95	
Perth Athletics Classic 1995	\$ 30 000

SPORT AND RECREATION - ATHLETICS WEST

Statistics

1631. Dr CONSTABLE to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

For each year since the establishment of Athletics West, would the Minister provide the following information -

- (a) details of expenditure on administration;
- (b) athletics development programs;
- (c) grants to the Athletics Association of Western Australia;
- (d) grants to regional development committees;
- (e) travel of employees of Athletics West;
- (f) purchase and repair of competition equipment?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

The Minister for Sport and Recreation has provided the following response:

Total income received by Athletics West from all sources and the proportion provided by the State Government through the Sports Lottery Fund is as follows -

Year	Total Income	Sports Lottery Payments
1992-93	\$227 141	\$222 705
1993-94	\$276 483	\$202 000
1994-95	\$266 451	\$189 190
1995-96	\$346 166	\$158 040
1996-97	\$333 544	\$349 000 *(i)

- (i) Includes a grant of \$144 000 which was taken up by the Amateur Athletics Association of WA and recorded in their books.

Significant Items of Expenditure

1992-93		
	Wages and on costs	\$ 76 098
	Airfares	\$ 15 126
	Marketing fee/retainer	\$ 16 052
	Office accommodation	\$ 10 024
	Painting	\$ 12 632
	Sundry expenses	\$ 13 349
		\$143 281
1993-94		
	Wages and on costs	\$ 71 414
	Grant to AAWA	\$ 66 520
	Grant to WALAA	\$ 21 000
		\$158 934
1994-95		
	Wages and on costs	\$116 720
	Office rent	\$ 13 285
	Grant to AAWA	\$ 19 331
	Computer/phone system	\$ 7 538
		\$156 874
1995-96		
	Wages and on costs	\$116 898
	Grant to AAWA	\$ 63 900
	Scholarships	\$ 11 027
	Office rent	\$ 17 920
		\$209 745

1996-97

Wages and on costs	\$ 99 022
Grant expenditure	\$ 49 946*(ii)
Motor vehicle expenditure	\$ 10 252
Painting/stationery/photocopier	\$ 13 628
Office rent	\$ 13 587
	\$186 435

- (ii) Includes \$30 000 paid to the Town of Cambridge for track repairs.

SCHOOLS - LOCAL AREA PLANNING POLICY

Amalgamation of Schools

1660. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

Which particular schools does the Education Department see as having the opportunity or potential to amalgamate under the proposed local area planning policy?

Mr BARNETT replied:

No determinations have been made about the possible outcomes of the Local Area Education Planning process. Extensive consultation will take place within each local area community to determine the most appropriate plan for that area. However, in the Western Suburbs, I believe there is an opportunity to merge Swanbourne and City Beach Senior High Schools, probably on the City Beach site, and close Scarborough Senior High School, for the educational benefit of students in the area.

SCHOOLS - LOCAL AREA PLANNING POLICY

List of School Groups

1661. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Will the Minister provide a list of the school groups so far established under local area planning and the names of the schools allocated to each group?
- (2) If not, why not?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) The first group of schools, announced on Tuesday, 23 September 1997, was in the 'Western Suburbs' (Churchlands, Scarborough, City Beach, Swanbourne, Hollywood, Perth Modern and Carine Senior High Schools). Other than in this case, groups have not yet been established. District Directors (Schools) will establish groupings in consultation with school communities, over the next 15 months, according to educational priority. In Esperance, Albany and Kalgoorlie, local organisations have been established over the last few years in response to local education delivery issues. The processes already established by these groups will form a basis for the Local Area Education Planning processes.

SCHOOLS - LOCAL AREA PLANNING POLICY

Approaches by Education Department

1662. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

- (1) What schools have so far been approached by the Education Department, whether through personnel from Head Office or District Offices, and asked to consider options for the future of the school under local area planning?
- (2) Which schools will be asked to consider options for their futures under local area planning in 1997?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) Following the 'Western Suburbs' announcement on 23 September 1997, Churchlands, Scarborough, City Beach, Swanbourne, Hollywood, Perth Modern and Carine Senior High Schools were approached to begin considering future education delivery options under the Local Area Education Planning Framework.
- (2) In Term 4 1997, planning will start for other secondary schools in the metropolitan area and Mandurah (Peel). In Albany, Esperance and Kalgoorlie, planning for future education delivery has been under way

for some time, in response to local issues. This work will underpin the processes to be established in these locations in Term 4 1997, under the Local Area Education Planning Framework. Planning for new schools and schools requiring urgent capital works will also continue or commence at this time. All other schools will commence planning in 1998.

SCHOOLS - LOCAL AREA PLANNING POLICY

Parents and Citizens Associations - Approaches by Education Department

1663. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Which Parents and Citizens Associations have so far been approached by the Education Department and asked to consider options for the future of their school under local area planning?
- (2) Which Parents and Citizens Associations will be asked to consider options for the future of their schools under local area planning in 1997?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) None.
- (2) In Term 4 1997, planning will start for secondary schools in the metropolitan area and Mandurah (Peel) and continue in Albany, Esperance and Kalgoorlie. Planning for new schools and schools requiring urgent capital works will also continue or commence at this time. Parents and Citizens' Associations as key stakeholders will be formally involved in the planning process.

EDUCATION - LOCAL AREA PLANNING POLICY

Savings

1668. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

What are the projected savings from the implementation of local area planning in each financial year from 1997-98 to 2000-2001?

Mr BARNETT replied:

There are no projected savings targets for the initiative. The planning process will require those involved in recommending options to consider the most effective and efficient use of resources.

EDUCATION - LOCAL AREA PLANNING POLICY

Analysis of Schools Affected

1669. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Has the Education Department prepared any analysis of the numbers, categories or locations of schools likely to be affected by closure, amalgamation or other rationalisation under the proposed local area planning policy?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If yes to (1) above, will the Minister make that analysis available to the Parliament and the public?
- (4) If not, why not?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) Apart from the 'Western Suburbs' area, no analysis has been made. As announced on 23 September 1997, it is expected that my proposal to merge Swanbourne and City Beach Senior High Schools, probably on the City Beach site, and close Scarborough Senior High School, would realise \$25 - \$40 million, approximately half of which would be channelled back into the remaining schools. More detailed information has not been prepared.
- (2) I do not wish to pre-empt the consultation process with the community regarding the future delivery of education services in each area. Those schools likely to be affected by closure, amalgamation or other rationalisation, are those which the community identifies in the planning process.
- (3) This information was publicised on 23 September 1997 as stated above.

- (4) Not applicable.

EDUCATION - LOCAL AREA PLANNING POLICY

Impact on Education Department's Budget

1670. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Has the Education Department prepared any analysis of the impact on the Department's budget of the implementation of local area planning?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If yes to (1) above, will the Minister make that analysis available to the Parliament and the public?
- (4) If not, why not?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) The Local Area Education Planning process will be managed at the local level based on the policy framework and principles. Therefore, no system-wide determination of outcomes can be made. The only draft proposal at this stage refers to the 'Western Suburbs' as announced on 23 September 1997. An analysis of the impact of this proposal on the Department's budget will not be finalised until this plan is fully developed.
- (3)-(4) Not applicable.

EXMOUTH RESORT AND CANAL DEVELOPMENT - MINISTER FOR TOURISM

Meetings with Mr Ingham

1686. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of an article that appeared in the *Sunday Times* on 15 June 1997, under the heading of "Resort Group Broadside at Government"?
- (2) Is the Minister aware the article refers to Mr Alan Ingham?
- (3) Has the Minister, either before or after he became the Minister, met with Mr Ingham to discuss his proposal for a resort near Exmouth?
- (4) When did the Minister first meet with Mr Ingham?
- (5) On how many other occasions did the Minister meet with Mr Ingham?
- (6) At any of the meetings, or communications, between Mr Ingham and the Minister did the Minister express support for the proposed development?
- (7) Did the Minister indicate a preferred site for the development?
- (8) What was that site?
- (9) Did the Minister at any time give Mr Ingham comfort by indicating that either he or the Government would support the development?
- (10) Did the Minister at any time or meeting give any indication the Government supported the project?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following response:

- (1)-(3) Yes.
- (4) Many years ago, probably in 1976.
- (5) Many times over the years.
- (6) Yes.
- (7) I indicated my personal preference, not necessarily that of the Government.

- (8) On the west coast of North West Cape.
- (9) I encouraged Mr Ingham to progress his proposal, which I believed had merit.
- (10) Not to my recollection.

EXMOUTH RESORT AND CANAL DEVELOPMENT - 1995 MEETING

Report - Tourism Commission

1687. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of an article that appeared in the *Sunday Times* newspaper on 15 June 1997 under the heading of "Resort Group Broadside at Government"?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the article refers to a 1995 meeting which invited the consortium operated by Alan Ingham to seek a special licence to run a 200 000 feasibility study, financed by the group?
- (3) Did such a meeting take place in 1995?
- (4) Who participated in the meeting?
- (5) What was the result of the meeting?
- (6) Did the Tourism Commission prepare a report on the meeting?
- (7) On what date was the report prepared?
- (8) Was the report submitted to the Minister?
- (9) Did the Tourism Commission make any recommendations in the report?
- (10) What recommendations were made?
- (11) Were the recommendations endorsed by -
 - (a) the Minister;
 - (b) the Government?
- (12) At the 1995 meeting, was the consortium invited to apply for a special licence to run the 200 000 feasibility study, financed by the group?
- (13) What undertakings or understandings were reached in this respect?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following reply:

- (1)-(3) Yes.
- (4) Alan Ingham - Development Syndicate
John Reidy-Crofts - Development Syndicate
Keith Malcolm - Development Syndicate
Dave Richardson - Shire of Exmouth
Doug Bathgate - Gascoyne Development Commission
Colin Ingram - CALM
Jim Williamson - CALM
John Willis - DOLA
Max Poole - DPUD
Bob Johnson - WATC
- (5) Agreement on a proposed course of action.
- (6) A report was not produced, however, a summary of the meeting was prepared by the WATC representative and distributed to attendees.
- (7) A summary of the meeting above was prepared on 2 March, 1995.
- (8) No.
- (9) No - as indicated, the WATC prepared a summary of the content of the meeting. The WATC is not the agency charged with the support of land release or development applications. Its role was as a facilitator to bring all parties concerned together in an endeavour to reach a way forward.

(10)-(11) Not applicable.

(12)-(13) The special licence was a proposed course of action subject to a number of departmental approvals.

EXMOUTH RESORT AND CANAL DEVELOPMENT - MINISTER FOR TOURISM

Discussions as to LandCorp's Position

1690. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Did the Minister for Tourism visit Exmouth on Sunday 6 October 1996?
- (2) While in Exmouth did the Minister have occasion to discuss the proposed resort being promoted by Trade Centre Pty Ltd?
- (3) In any discussions did the Minister outline that LandCorp had put forward the view the consortiums/Trade Centre Pty Ltd proposal for a resort on the west coast should not be supported at that time in view of the need to maximise the interest in the east coast marina development?
- (4) If not, did the Minister provide any outline of what he understood to be LandCorp's position on the proposed west coast resort development?
- (5) If so, what did the Minister outline?
- (6) If not, did the Minister outline his views on the west coast resort development?
- (7) What views did the Minister express at the time about the proposed development?
- (8) Prior to visiting Exmouth on October 6th 1996, had the Minister had any discussion with the Minister for Lands and/or LandCorp about the proposed west coast development?
- (9) Who had those discussions been with?
- (10) In those discussions, did the Minister for Lands or LandCorp put forward a view about the proposed west coast development?
- (11) What view was put forward by the Minister or LandCorp?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following response:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3) No.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) I understood LandCorp's position to be one of concern about the ability of Exmouth (an untested market) to sustain two large scale developments simultaneously.
- (6) Not applicable.
- (7) I believed the west coast of North West Cape to have a greater potential to attract investor and tourist interest.
- (8) No.
- (9)-(11) Not applicable.

EXMOUTH RESORT AND CANAL DEVELOPMENT - TRADE CENTRE PTY LTD

Delay in Consideration of Proposal

1692. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of proposals by Trade Centre Pty Ltd to develop a resort on the west coast of Cape Range?

- (2) Prior to the 1996 State election, did the Minister, or the then Minister, take any action or fail to take any action which would result in a delay in the proposal being considered by Government?
- (3) Was consideration of the proposal delayed for political, environmental or commercial reasons?
- (4) Did discussions take place within Government about delaying consideration of the proposal for political and/or other reasons?
- (5) Did the Minister, or the then Minister, have discussions about such an approach being taken?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(5) No.

FAIR TRADING - COMMERCIAL TRIBUNAL

Cases Dealt With

1717. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister for Small Business:

- (1) How many complaints or inquiries have been received by the Small Business Development Corporation with regard to the commercial tenancies legislation?
- (2) How many mediations have been conducted by the Commercial Registrar?
- (3) How many cases have been dealt with in the last year by the Commercial Tribunal?
- (4) What are the names of the applicant and the defendant in each of the cases to have been dealt with by the Commercial Tribunal?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1) On average, the Small Business Development Corporation receives approximately 280 enquiries per month related to commercial tenancies. 3,941 commercial tenancy enquiries were received for the 12 months ended 30 June 1997 which is an average of 76 enquiries per week. A significant proportion of these enquiries relate to or require consideration of the Commercial Tenancies (Retail Shops) Agreements Act 1985.
- (2) Responsibility for the operations of the Commercial Registrar rests with the Attorney General; Minister for Justice; the Arts. The Registrar has advised that the figures requested are not readily available for the year ended 30 June 1997 however for the year ended 30 June 1996, 139 mediation applications were made with an additional 2 matters referred by the Local Court to the Registrar.
- (3) The Commercial Tribunal is the responsibility of the Attorney General; Minister for Justice; the Arts. The Commercial Registrar advised that the figures for the year ended 30 June 1997 are not readily available however for the year ended 30 June 1996, there were 58 matters referred to the Commercial Tribunal including matters carried over from the previous years.
- (4) Responsibility for the operations of the Commercial Tribunal rests with the Attorney General; Minister for Justice; the Arts and the information requested should be obtained from that source.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - ANNUAL REPORTS

Costs

1722. Mr BROWN to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs:

- (1) For each department or agency under the Premier's control, what was the cost of producing the 1995-96 annual report, including -
 - (a) artwork;
 - (b) publication;
 - (c) distribution?
- (2) How do the costs for the 1995-96 annual report compare with the costs associated with the 1994-95 annual report?

- (3) Was the 1995-96 annual report produced wholly within the department or agency?
- (4) If not -
 - (a) what services were provided by contractors;
 - (b) at what cost?
- (5) Who printed the 1995-96 annual report?
- (6) How many copies of the 1995-96 annual report were printed?
- (7) To whom was the 1995-96 annual report distributed?
- (8) Was environmentally-friendly or recycled material used in the production of the document?

Mr COURT replied:

Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet

- (1) (a)-(b) \$27 479 for artwork, editing, photography, overseeing the production, printing and publication.
(c) Distribution carried out in-house.
- (2) \$25 471 for 1994/95.
- (3) No.
- (4) (a) Editing, Design, Artwork, Photography and Printing.
(b) See 1(a)-(b).
- (5) Scott Four Colour Print.
- (6) 600.
- (7) Parliament, Government agencies, libraries and interested parties.
- (8) No.

Anti-Corruption Commission

- (1) (a) Not applicable
(b) 20 copies @ \$1.04 per copy = \$20.80
(c) Approximately 70 cents/copy
- (2) (a) Not applicable
(b) 20 copies @ \$0.968 = \$19.36.
(c) Approximately 70 cents/copy
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Photocopied in-house.
- (6) 20 copies.
- (7) Premier, Auditor General, Media, Joint Standing Committee on the Anti-Corruption Commission, In-house.
- (8) No.

Office of the Auditor General

- (1) (a) artwork prepared in-house.
(b) \$14 776
(c) some 540 progressively mailed out by MailWest/Australia Post at standard rates.
- (2) Up \$1 500 primarily due to use of recycled paper and rise in overall printing costs.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Optima Press was the cheapest of three quotes.
- (6) 700

(7) OAG staff, all Members of Parliament, academia, libraries, the public (numerous requests), media, Peer Offices, relevant private sector organisations and local, national, and in some cases international, audit offices (30 copies remain to date).

(8) Yes.

Office of the Public Sector Standards Commissioner

(1) Total Cost \$10 651 + postage which is not collected separately for the annual report.

- (a) \$5 624 for artwork + \$335 for photography
- (b) \$4 692 for print manager, fees and printing
- (c) Unknown cost as this forms part of a monthly postage account. In addition, some reports may have been couriered or collected by hand.

(2) Total Cost of \$10 651 for 1995/96
Total Cost of \$7 187.12 for 1994/95
Difference in Cost of \$3 463.88

(3) No.

(4) (a) Editorial, Desktop publishing and printing
(b) \$10 316

(5) EM Complete Printers

(6) 300

(7) All Public Sector Chief Executive Officers and Parliamentarians, and other persons who have requested copies.

(8) Yes.

Gold Corporation

(1) (a) \$7 711
(b) \$6 879
(c) \$3 102

(2) (a) \$8 500
(b) \$7 314
(c) \$1 975

(3) No.

(4) (a) Artwork and printing outsourced.
(b) \$14 590

(5) Scott Four Colour.

(6) 1 500 copies.

(7) Gold Corporation's annual report is distributed to its international regional offices, international coin distributors, Board of Directors, overseas diplomatic posts, gold mining companies, World Gold Council offices, financial journalists, stockbrokers, banks, bullion dealers and members of the general public, both in Australia and overseas.

(8) No.

Treasury

(1) (a) \$11 614
(b) \$6 935
(c) Not applicable

(2) There was an increase in costs of \$1 811 from \$16 738 in 1994-95 to \$18 549 in 1995-96.

(3) No.

(4) (a) artwork, design, layout, photographs and printing;
(b) \$18 549.

(5) Allwest Print Pty Ltd.

- (6) 300.
- (7) Government agencies, Western Australian universities, other State Treasuries and Parliamentary Libraries, and several financial institutions.
- (8) No.

Governor's Establishment

- (1) (a)-(c) Produced in-house.
- (2) Same.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) In-house.
- (6) 20.
- (7) Premier of Western Australia - via Director General (1 copy)
Manager, State Financial Reporting Branch, Treasury Dept. (1 copy)
Minister for Finance (1 copy)
Auditor General (1 copy)
Executive Officer, Parliamentary Services, Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet (5 copies - 3 Assembly, 2 Council)
- (8) Yes.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - ANNUAL REPORTS

Costs

1737. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Police; Emergency Services:

- (1) For each department or agency under the Minister's control, what was the cost of producing the 1995-96 annual report, including -
 - (a) artwork;
 - (b) publication;
 - (c) distribution?
- (2) How do the costs for the 1995-96 annual report compare with the costs associated with the 1994-95 annual report?
- (3) Was the 1995-96 annual report produced wholly within the department or agency?
- (4) If not -
 - (a) what services were provided by contractors;
 - (b) at what cost?
- (5) Who printed the 1995-96 annual report?
- (6) How many copies of the 1995-96 annual report were printed?
- (7) To whom was the 1995-96 annual report distributed?
- (8) Was environmentally-friendly or recycled material used in the production of the document?

Mr DAY replied:

The Western Australia Police Service

- (1) Approximately \$44,000.
 - (a) \$25,000. This included artwork, design, publication and printing.
 - (b) \$19,000. This included print, and editorial management.
 - (c) Minimal cost in house.
- (2) A budget of \$45,000 was allocated to the production of both 1994/95 and 1995/96 Annual Reports.

- (3) No.
- (4) (a) artwork and design, photography, printing, print management, editorial assistance.
(b) \$44,000
- (5) Jaz Design and Marketing.
- (6) 1,500.
- (7) Members of Parliament, National Common Police Service, eg National Police Research Unit, Western Australia Police Service Administrative Branches, Sections and Units, Officers in Charge of Police Stations in WA, WA Local Government Authorities and selected State Government Agencies, all Australian and selected overseas police jurisdictions, Library and Information Services of WA and university libraries.
- (8) No. Environmentally friendly and recycled material was considered, however, it did not prove to be cost effective.

Bush Fires Board

- (1) \$3,150.
- (2) The cost for 1994/95 Annual Report was \$2,758.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Allwest Print.
- (6) 700.
- (7) Bush Fires Board Staff, Local Government Chief Executive Officers, Local Government Chief Bush Fire Control Officers, Country Media, State Government Ministers, Regional Offices of the Bush Fires Board.
- (8) No.

Fire & Rescue Service

- (1) \$16,275. This included artwork, printing and distribution.
- (2) \$14,194. This included artwork, printing and distribution.
- (3) No.
- (4) (a) Graphic design, artwork, typesetting, negative preparation, print management and printing.
(b) \$16,110.
- (5) Jack Daniels Pty Ltd.
- (6) 1,200.
- (7) Minister for Emergency Services, Parliament, Board Members, Permanent and Volunteer Fire Stations, Partner Organisations, selected relevant WA Government Departments, Local Government Authorities, Insurance Companies, other fire service organisations, WA Agent General in United Kingdom, Perth Media.
- (8) Yes.

State Emergency Services

- (1) (a-b) \$12,191.
(c) \$450.
- (2) A report was not produced.
- (3) No.
- (4) (a) Gargano Lawson Design.
(b) \$11,900.
- (5) Scott Four Colour Print.
- (6) 500.

- (7) WA State Emergency Services (WASES) Regional Headquarters and offices, WASES volunteer units, Local Government Councils and Shires, major State Government Agencies and Departments, other State/Territory Emergency Services and other specific requests.
- (8) Recycled paper was used in the Financial Statements section of the WASES Annual Report. The higher cost of using recycled paper for the entire annual report was prohibitive.

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN - MINISTER FOR POLICE

Motor Vehicles - Leasing

1749. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Police; Emergency Services:

- (1) How many vehicles does each department and agency under the Minister's control lease?
- (2) What is the monthly amount each department and agency pays for leasing the vehicles?
- (3) What was the amount each department and agency paid for leasing the vehicles in February 1997?

Mr DAY replied:

The Western Australia Police Service

- (a) 1301
(b) \$272,007
(c) \$272,242

Bush Fires Board

- (a) 25
(b) \$6000
(c) \$4057

State Emergency Service

- (a) 76
(b) \$28,734
(c) \$24,225

Fire & Rescue Service

- (a) 72
(b) \$9,615
(c) \$7,280

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN - MINISTER FOR POLICE

Committees and Boards - Statistics

1751. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Police; Emergency Services:

- (1) What boards, committees or the like in each portfolio under the Minister's control provide a sitting fee, or other payment, to board or committee members?
- (2) What is the name of each board and/or committee?
- (3) What are the names of the members of each board and/or committee?
- (4) How much is each member of the board and/or committee paid for their services?

Mr DAY replied:

The Western Australia Police Service

- (1)-(2) Minister's Council on Aboriginal/Police and Community Relations, under the Aboriginal Affairs Directorate.
- (3)
- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Mrs Pamela R Walsh | (Chairperson) |
| Inspector John Gibson | Western Australia Police Service Representative |
| Mr John Hudson | Community Policing Crime Prevention Council |
| Mr Ken Colbung | Community Representative |
| Mrs Lorraine Whitby | Community Representative |
| Mrs Maria Haynes | Western Australian Municipal Association |

Mr Dennis Eggington Aboriginal Legal Service
Mr John Bridge Aboriginal Affairs Department

- (4) Chairperson \$19,600 annual honorarium and office allowance of \$600 per annum. Non government or non full time employees of organisations receive a standard sitting fee of \$131 per full day.

Bush Fires Board

- (1)-(2) Bush Fires Management Board.

- (3) Cr Harold Murray Lang (Chairman)
Mr Ric Sneeuwjagt
Mr Kevin Cuneo
Cr Lester Dickson
Cr Raymond Lees
Cr William Dinnie
Mrs Margaret Hector
Mr Simon Hart
Superintendent Barry Dawson
Mr Eugene Ferraro
Mr Bill Harris

- (4) Chairman \$97 per half day. Non government or non full time employees of organisations received a standard sitting fee of \$73 per half day.

Fire & Rescue Service

- (1)-(2) Western Australian Fire Brigades Board.

- (3) B MacKinnon (Chairman)
R Jones
M Lang
J Leahy
R Lees
E Lennon
A Llewellyn
R McNally
S Mola
P Pearse
B Willoughby

- (4) Chairman \$25,000 annual fee. Full day member \$108. Half day member \$73.

State Emergency Services

- (1)-(4) Nil.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - POLLING AND MARKET RESEARCH

Statistics

1755. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Police; Emergency Services:

- (1) How much has been allocated by each department and agency under the Minister's control for -

- (a) public opinion polling;
(b) market research;
(c) customer research; and
(d) stakeholder research,

in the 1997-98 financial year?

- (2) What is the precise nature of the polling and/or research that will be undertaken by each department and agency?

Mr DAY replied:

Western Australia Police Service

- (1) (a)-(b) Nil.
(c) \$37,000.
(d) Nil.

- (2) The Traffic & Operations Support portfolio proposes to conduct an internal customer service survey with all District Police Offices. The survey will be in the form of a questionnaire encompassing the effectiveness of information distributed internally and the services provided by the TOPS portfolio. Each year as part of a joint funding arrangement between all police jurisdictions, the Australian Bureau of Statistics undertake a National Community Satisfaction with Police Services Survey.

Bush Fires Board

- (1) (a)-(b) Nil.
(c) \$ 800.
(d) Nil.
- (2) Customer Focus Survey will be sent out to Chief Executive Officers of Local Government and Chief Bush Fire Control Officers of Local Government to ascertain the standard of advice and service being offered by the Bush Fires Board.

Fire & Rescue Service

- (1) (a) \$25 000.
(b) \$30 000.
(c) \$ 7 000.
(d) Nil.
- (2) Public opinion survey of customer satisfaction with services provided by the Fire & Rescue Service. Market research, post winter and summer fire safety campaign surveys. Also survey to update figures on the penetration of smoke alarms in Western Australia. Customer research, the combined Corporate Communications Branch for the new Emergency Services umbrella agency is planning a survey of internal and external customers of the three emergency services agencies to assess the effectiveness of various communications, such as newsletters.

State Emergency Service

- (1) (a) Nil.
(b)-(c) \$5 000.
(d) Nil.
- (2) The study is part of the natural disaster awareness programs run in the community by the Western Australia State Emergency Service. The research is being undertaken by the Community and Environmental Masters students from Edith Cowan. The purpose of the study is to assess the community's awareness of cyclones and cyclone preparation.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - MOTOR VEHICLES

Leasing

1758. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Police; Emergency Services:

- (1) In each department and agency under the Minister's control which leases motor vehicles, does the lease provide for any payments other than the monthly payment?
- (2) What payment does each department and agency have to make for each vehicle other than the monthly payment?
- (3) What is the total cost of those payments for each department and agency?

Mr DAY replied:

The Western Australia Police Service

- (1) Yes.
- (2) All running costs are additional to the monthly lease costs and are met by this agency.
- (3) The total running costs of the Western Australia Police Service motor vehicle fleet is \$9,887,476.

Bush Fires Board

- (1) No.
- (2) Fleet Management Fees.

(3) \$8,000.

Fire & Rescue Service

(1) No.

(2)-(3) Nil.

State Emergency Service

(1) No.

(2)-(3) Nil.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

Investment and Financial Statements

1759. Mr PENDAL to the Minister for Police; Emergency Services:

(1) Will the Minister list each Government department or agency under his control which is involved in any commercial or business venture by way of invested capital, or partnerships with the private sector on which the department/agency seeks a return?

(2) Will the Minister indicate the level of investment in each case?

(3) Will the Minister indicate whether such departments/agencies table their financial statements in Parliament?

(4) If they do not, will the Minister arrange for such tabling?

Mr DAY replied:

Western Australia Police Service

(1) Nil.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

Bush Fires Board

(1) Nil.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

Fire & Rescue Service

(1) Nil.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

State Emergency Service

(1) Nil.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

EDUCATION - TEACHERS

Contracts - Five Year

1770. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Education:

Is the Education Department considering offering five year contracts as an employment option?

Mr BARNETT replied:

Consideration is being given to fixed term contracts in some cases where indefinite employment cannot be offered or is not appropriate to the position. In some cases, such as with some temporary teacher positions, this will extend the tenure currently offered. There is no current proposal to alter the employment tenure of existing Education Department employees, nor to implement contract employment on a widespread basis.

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN - SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Statistics

1771. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) In relation to all real estate (land and buildings) sold within the Minister's portfolio in the 1995-96 and 1996-97 years -
- (a) where was the real estate situated (giving the actual address of the land and building);
 - (b) for what amount was the real estate sold;
 - (c) when, if ever, was the most recent valuation of the real estate conducted; and
 - (d) what was the value of the real estate according to the valuation?
- (2) What real estate in the Minister's portfolio is currently for sale or in the process of being sold?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

Department of Conservation and Land Management

- (1) (a)-(d) See table hereunder:

Property Location	Sale Price \$	Valuation \$	Date of Valuation
1995/96			
Lot 2	110,000	110,000	21/5/96
Lot 15	60,000	60,000	21/5/96
Location 2347	155,000	155,000	21/5/96
Lot 1341	130,000	130,000	21/5/96
Location 11061	160,000	160,000	21/5/96
Location 11062	170,000	170,000	21/5/96
Location 47	110,000 1	10,000	21/5/96
Pt Location 84	145,000	125,000	21/5/96
Location 4442	190,000	190,000	21/5/96
(All the above properties are located in rural areas of the Blackwood River Valley, between Bridgetown and Nannup.)			
1996/97			
Pt Location 48	85,000	85,000	21/5/96
Pt Location 1331]			
Location 1765]			
Lot 17]	534 500	565 000	21/5/96
Lot 2]			
Location 928	115,000	115,000	21/5/96
Pt Location 6145	70,000	70,000	21/5/96
Lot 3	800,000	800,000	23/12/96
Location 702			
& Pt Location 8475	185,000	185,000	5/5/97
Lot 28	85,000	85,000	5/5/97
Lot 14	137,500	120,000	5/5/97
Location 2008	215,000	180,000	5/5/97
Lot 2	165,000	165,000	5/5/97
Location 985	209,000	220,000	5/5/97
(All the above properties are located in rural areas of the Blackwood River Valley, between Bridgetown and Nannup.)			
Lot 4 Green Rd, Pemberton	75,000	60,000	21/5/96
40 Adelaide St, Busselton	165,000	162,500	5/6/96
Lot 7 Raspi Pl, Pemberton	37,000	33,000	25/2/97
Lot 11 Raspi Pl, Pemberton	49,000	44,000	25/2/97
Lot 12 Raspi Pl, Pemberton	38,000	37,000	25/2/97
Location 2479			
Allanson via Collie	180,000	170,000	5/5/97
Lot 963 Patterson Way, Exmouth	62,500	65,000	14/5/97

- (2) One lot in Manjimup and one lot in the Blackwood Valley are currently in the process of being sold. Six unsold lots from the last Blackwood Valley auction are still currently for sale on the open market.

Perth Zoo

- (1) (a)-(d) No real estate has been sold in the 1995-96 and 1996-97 years.
(2) No real estate is currently for sale or in the process of being sold.

Department of Environmental Protection

- (1) (a)-(d) No real estate has been sold in the 1995-96 and 1996-97 years.
(2) No real estate is currently for sale or in the process of being sold.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden

- (1) (a)-(d) No real estate has been sold in the 1995-96 and 1996-97 years.
(2) No real estate is currently for sale or in the process of being sold.

EDUCATION - FIRST STEPS PROGRAM

Cost

1784. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Up to the date of the agreement between the Education Department and Longman Cheshire regarding First Steps, what was the total cost of developing the First Steps program, including expenditure and professional development?
(2) Since the date of the agreement, what have been the costs of any further development or modification of the First Steps program?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) Cost of development and implementation of First Steps is \$19 million.
(2) Costs of further development or modification of First Steps since the date of agreement amounts to \$550,000.

PARKING - PERTH BEACHES

Paid

1799. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Did the Minister issue a media statement on 28 June 1997 concerning paid parking at Perth beaches?
(2) In the media statement did the Minister give an assurance there would be no wholesale paid parking at Perth beaches?
(3) Does the assurance the Minister gave mean that paid parking at Perth beaches will not be permitted?
(4) If not, what does the statement mean?
(5) Does the statement mean the Government may consider paid parking at Perth beaches providing some portion of beach parking is left free of charge?
(6) If so, what portion?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
(3)-(6) The statement means exactly what it said. There will be no wholesale paid parking at the state's beaches, but I will listen to any considered proposal put to me by a local government which does not offend the principle of free access to beach parking.

TOURISM - ELLE RACING

Contract - Consultants' Advice

1801. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Has the Western Australian Government/Tourism Commission employed one or more consultants to examine the Elle Racing contract?
- (2) What is the name of each consultant?
- (3) For what purpose was each consultant engaged?
- (4) How much has each consultant been paid?
- (5) How much will each consultant be paid?
- (6) What professional expertise did each consultant have which caused them to be engaged by the Government/Tourism Commission?
- (7) Has the Government/Tourism Commission received any advice or recommendations from the consultant/s?
- (8) What is the nature of the advice received?
- (9) Did the consultant/s provide advice on the degree to which the Government is financially committed under the contract?
- (10) What was the nature of the advice provided?
- (11) Why was it necessary to seek the advice?
- (12) Was there insufficient expertise within Government to provide that advice?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Wayne Martin QC.
- (3) To provide legal advice to WATC.
- (4)-(5) \$1,750.
- (6) Mr Martin is an eminent Queen's Counsel.
- (7) Yes.
- (8)-(10) Legal advice is generally not disclosed.
- (11) For confirmation of the advice previously given by the Crown Solicitor's Office.
- (12) Independent advice was deemed to be appropriate.

TAXATION - FEDERAL

Submission - Availability

1802. Mr BROWN to the Treasurer:

- (1) Further to question on notice No. 191 of 1997, did the Treasurer know at the time of answering the question that the Commonwealth Government had made a decision not to make public any submissions received from State and Territory Governments?
- (2) If so, why did the Treasurer maintain a copy of the submission could be obtained through the Commonwealth Department of Finance?
- (3) Before answering the question did the Treasurer ascertain if a copy of the submission could be obtained through the Commonwealth Department of Finance?
- (4) If so, what response was received to that inquiry?
- (5) Was any inquiry made by the Treasurer or any response received from the Commonwealth Department of Finance reduced to writing?

- (6) Will the Government now make available a copy of the State Government's submission on tax reform?
- (7) If not, why not?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3)-(5) The Department of Finance had, on a number of occasions, asked whether the Government would object to a copy of the joint States and Territories submission being made available to nominated persons. I was not aware of the subsequent decision not to make any further copies available.
- (6)-(7) The State Government did not make a submission on tax reform. The State contributed to a joint States and Territories submission to the National Commission of Audit. That submission contained a reference to the need for tax reform in the context of vertical fiscal imbalance. Because the submission was made by all States and Territories, the Western Australian Government will abide by the Commonwealth Government's decision not to make the submission publicly available.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - CONTRACTS

Value and Terms

1823. Mr BROWN to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs:

- (1) What functions or services has each department or government agency under the Premier's control contracted out since 1993, stating -

- (a) the date;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient was Western Australian, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

- (2) What functions or services are being planned or intended to be contracted out by each department or government agency under the Premier's control during the current term of government, stating -

- (a) the approximate date it will take place;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient is Western Australia, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) Procuring services from the private and not-for-profit sector is and has traditionally been part of the routine business of government. In 1995/96, public sector agencies spent an estimated \$2.3 billion on many thousands of contracts across an extremely diverse range of goods and services. Unfortunately, the information sought by the member for Bassendean is not readily available and would require considerable resources to collect. I would like to direct the Member's attention to those public documents emanating from the State Supply Commission in regard to expenditure on goods and services. Furthermore, I will ensure that the Member is provided with a copy of the report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting in the public sector, which sets out broad information on the level and nature of contract expenditure on services. The Government is well aware of the potential benefits in the provision of information pertaining to contracts. These data are useful tools in assisting local businesses to identify

opportunities to supply to Government as well as providing relevant information to potential subcontractors and subsuppliers to Government contractors. Work has already commenced on developing systems which will assist in the provision of information relating to the public sector's purchasing and contracting activities. Investigations are proceeding to identify effective ways of publishing such data in electronic form. These measures will also fulfill the Government's commitment to implement the Commission on Government's recommendation 11.

- (2) It is not possible to determine the extent of contracting out which will occur during the remainder of the Government's current term. The report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting referred to above, however, includes some information on agencies' contracting intentions and the type of services likely to be market tested. In line with the Government's competitive tendering and contracting policies, public sector agencies will continue to progressively review their activities in order to identify potential contracting opportunities with the aim of providing best value-for-money and quality services to the community.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - CONTRACTS

Value and Terms

1835. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Works; Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs; Youth:

- (1) What functions or services has each department or government agency under the Minister's control contracted out since 1993, stating -

- (a) the date;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient was Western Australian, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

- (2) What functions or services are being planned or intended to be contracted out by each department or government agency under the Minister's control during the current term of government, stating -

- (a) the approximate date it will take place;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient is Western Australia, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

Mr BOARD replied:

- (1) Procuring services from the private and not-for-profit sector is and has traditionally been part of the routine business of government. In 1995/96, public sector agencies spent an estimated \$2.3 billion on many thousands of contracts across an extremely diverse range of goods and services. Unfortunately, the information sought by the Member for Bassendean is not readily available and would require considerable resources to collect. I would like to direct the Member's attention to those public documents emanating from the State Supply Commission in regard to expenditure on goods and services. Furthermore, I will ensure that the Member is provided with a copy of the report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting in the public sector, which sets out broad information on the level and nature of contract expenditure on services. The Government is well aware of the potential benefits in the provision of information pertaining to contracts. These data are useful tools in assisting local businesses to identify opportunities to supply to Government as well as providing relevant information to potential subcontractors and subsuppliers to Government contractors. Work has already commenced on developing systems which will assist in the provision of information relating to the public sector's purchasing and contracting

activities. Investigations are proceeding to identify effective ways of publishing such data in electronic form. These measures will also fulfill the Government's commitment to implement the Commission on Government's recommendation 11.

- (2) It is not possible to determine the extent of contracting out which will occur during the remainder of the Government's current term. The report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting referred to above, however, includes some information on agencies' contracting intentions and the type of services likely to be market tested. In line with the Government's competitive tendering and contracting policies, public sector agencies will continue to progressively review their activities in order to identify potential contracting opportunities with the aim of providing best value-for-money and quality services to the community.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - CONTRACTS

Value and Terms

1839. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) What functions or services has each department or government agency under the Minister's control contracted out since 1993, stating -

- (a) the date;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient was Western Australian, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

- (2) What functions or services are being planned or intended to be contracted out by each department or government agency under the Minister's control during the current term of government, stating -

- (a) the approximate date it will take place;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient is Western Australia, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Minister for the Arts has provided the following response:

- (1) Procuring services from the private and not-for-profit sector is and has traditionally been part of the routine business of government. In 1995/96, public sector agencies spent an estimated \$2.3 billion on many thousands of contracts across an extremely diverse range of goods and services. Unfortunately, the information sought by the member for Bassendean is not readily available and would require considerable resources to collect. I would like to direct the Member's attention to those public documents emanating from the State Supply Commission in regard to expenditure on goods and services. Furthermore, I will ensure that the Member is provided with a copy of the report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting in the public sector, which sets out broad information on the level and nature of contract expenditure on services. The Government is well aware of the potential benefits in the provision of information pertaining to contracts. These data are useful tools in assisting local businesses to identify opportunities to supply to Government as well as providing relevant information to potential subcontractors and sub-suppliers to Government contractors. Work has already commenced on developing systems which will assist in the provision of information relating to the public sector's purchasing and contracting activities. Investigations are proceeding to identify effective ways of publishing such data in electronic

form. These measures will also fulfill the Government's commitment to implement the Commission on Government's recommendation 11.

- (2) It is not possible to determine the extent of contracting out which will occur during the remainder of the Government's current term. The report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting referred to above, however, includes some information on agencies' contracting intentions and the type of services likely to be market tested. In line with the Government's competitive tendering and contracting policies, public sector agencies will continue to progressively review their activities in order to identify potential contracting opportunities with the aim of providing best value-for-money and quality services to the community.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - CONTRACTS

Value and Terms

1841. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) What functions or services has each department or government agency under the Minister's control contracted out since 1993, stating -

- (a) the date;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient was Western Australian, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

- (2) What functions or services are being planned or intended to be contracted out by each department or government agency under the Minister's control during the current term of government, stating -

- (a) the approximate date it will take place;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient is Western Australia, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following response:

- (1) Procuring services from the private and not-for-profit sector is and has traditionally been part of the routine business of government. In 1995/96, public sector agencies spent an estimated \$2.3 billion on many thousands of contracts across an extremely diverse range of goods and services. Unfortunately, the information sought by the member for Bassendean is not readily available and would require considerable resources to collect. I would like to direct the Member's attention to those public documents emanating from the State Supply Commission in regard to expenditure on goods and services. Furthermore, I will ensure that the Member is provided with a copy of the report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting in the public sector, which sets out broad information on the level and nature of contract expenditure on services. The Government is well aware of the potential benefits in the provision of information pertaining to contracts. These data are useful tools in assisting local businesses to identify opportunities to supply to Government as well as providing relevant information to potential subcontractors and subsuppliers to Government contractors. Work has already commenced on developing systems which will assist in the provision of information relating to the public sector's purchasing and contracting activities. Investigations are proceeding to identify effective ways of publishing such data in electronic form. These measures will also fulfill the Government's commitment to implement the Commission on Government's recommendation 11.

- (2) It is not possible to determine the extent of contracting out which will occur during the remainder of the Government's current term. The report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting referred to above, however, includes some information on agencies' contracting intentions and the type of services likely to be market tested. In line with the Government's competitive tendering and contracting policies, public sector agencies will continue to progressively review their activities in order to identify potential contracting opportunities with the aim of providing best value-for-money and quality services to the community.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - CONTRACTS

Value and Terms

1843. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) What functions or services has each department or government agency under the Minister's control contracted out since 1993, stating -

- (a) the date;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient was Western Australian, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

- (2) What functions or services are being planned or intended to be contracted out by each department or government agency under the Minister's control during the current term of government, stating -

- (a) the approximate date it will take place;
- (b) the amount;
- (c) the recipient;
- (d) whether the recipient is Western Australia, Australian or foreign; and
- (e) the term of the contract,

for contracts worth the following amounts -

- (i) more than \$100 000;
- (ii) between \$50 000 and \$100 000;
- (iii) between \$10 000 and \$50 000;
- (iv) between \$1 000 and \$10 000?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) Procuring services from the private and not-for-profit sector is and has traditionally been part of the routine business of government. In 1995/96, public sector agencies spent an estimated \$2.3 billion on many thousands of contracts across an extremely diverse range of goods and services. Unfortunately, the information sought by the member for Bassendean is not readily available and would require considerable resources to collect. I would like to direct the Member's attention to those public documents emanating from the State Supply Commission in regard to expenditure on goods and services. Furthermore, I will ensure that the Member is provided with a copy of the report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting in the public sector, which sets out broad information on the level and nature of contract expenditure on services. The Government is well aware of the potential benefits in the provision of information pertaining to contracts. These data are useful tools in assisting local businesses to identify opportunities to supply to Government as well as providing relevant information to potential subcontractors and subsuppliers to Government contractors. Work has already commenced on developing systems which will assist in the provision of information relating to the public sector's purchasing and contracting activities. Investigations are proceeding to identify effective ways of publishing such data in electronic form. These measures will also fulfill the Government's commitment to implement the Commission on Government's recommendation 11.
- (2) It is not possible to determine the extent of contracting out which will occur during the remainder of the Government's current term. The report on the third annual survey of competitive tendering and contracting

referred to above, however, includes some information on agencies' contracting intentions and the type of services likely to be market tested. In line with the Government's competitive tendering and contracting policies, public sector agencies will continue to progressively review their activities in order to identify potential contracting opportunities with the aim of providing best value-for-money and quality services to the community.

SCHOOLS - PICTON SITE

Rezoning

1849. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is the Education Department of Western Australia seeking to have the old Picton School site rezoned?
- (2) If yes, what zoning is the Education Department seeking for this site?
- (3) Why is the Education Department seeking this rezoning?
- (4) If the rezoning application is successful would it increase the price which the Bunbury Community School would have to pay should it wish to purchase the school which it is currently leasing?
- (5) If yes, by what amount would the price increase?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) No. However, in 1996 the Valuer General's office advised the Education Department that the site was to be zoned for a shopping and community centre under the 1995 Glen Iris Structure Plan. This plan has subsequently been adopted.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes. However, there have been no negotiations to sell the site to the Bunbury Community School. The asset will be disposed of through normal process by the Department of Land Administration under the provisions of the Public Works Act.
- (5) In 1996 the Valuer General's Office valued the site and buildings for highest and best use (deferred commercial) at \$360,000. The ultimate value will be determined at the time of sale.

TAXATION - PAYROLL

Broader Definition

1855. Mr PENDAL to the Premier:

- (1) I refer to the Government's stated aim of minimising the effects of payroll tax and ask, is it correct that a number of businesses are now paying higher levels of payroll tax because of the Government's action in broadening the definition of what constitutes a payroll, including fringe benefits tax and superannuation?
- (2) How does the Government justify a legislative action earlier this year to broaden the meaning of a payroll, in the light of its commitment to minimise, reduce or even abolish payroll tax?
- (3) Will the Premier undertake to totally review this decision in the event that a major re-assessment of State taxation proceeds with the Commonwealth?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) Although the Government broadened the payroll tax base to include superannuation and non-cash fringe benefits, it also significantly reduced payroll tax rates and increased the small business exemption and concession thresholds. The measures were intended to be revenue-neutral in 1997/98 although it was always expected that there would be "winners" and "losers" from these changes.
- (2) A major aim of the changes was to improve the equity of the payroll tax system by ensuring that all forms of employee remuneration are treated equally, and by reducing associated avoidance opportunities. So long as the Government is forced to rely on this source of revenue, it has an obligation to minimise inequities and inefficiencies in the system.
- (3) No. The reassessment referred to would involve more fundamental issues of States' excessive dependence on Commonwealth grants, and the assignment of revenue raising powers between the Commonwealth and the States.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - DELIVERY OF SERVICES

Regional Areas - Welfare Services Audit

1865. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Regional Development:

- (1) Has the Government conducted an audit of welfare services in regional WA to help close any gap in the availability of quality services between the city and the country?
- (2) If no to (1) above, why not?
- (3) If yes to (1) above -
 - (a) which agencies conducted the audit;
 - (b) is the audit consolidated in any central location;
 - (c) what action has been taken as a result of the audit;
 - (d) where are the results of the audit published?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1)-(2) No, but a community service audit of all government and government funded services is expected to commence within the next three months which will include welfare services.
- (3) Not applicable.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - PORT HEDLAND TOWN COUNCIL

Cyclone Clean-up Assistance

1873. Mr GRAHAM to the Premier:

For what reason/s was/were the request/s from Port Hedland Town Council for assistance with cyclone cleanup rejected?

Mr COURT replied:

There are no funding programs under which the request qualified. Even if Cyclone Rachel had been 'declared a natural disaster' under the Natural Disaster Relief Arrangements (NDRA), approved relief and restoration measures only extend to the repair or replacement of local authority assets, which does not include residential green waste collections.

SCHOOLS - HIGH

Swanbourne Senior - Post-compulsory Intensive Language Centre

1883. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister for Education:

With the downgrading of Swanbourne Senior High School and the forced transfer of both deputy principals, where does the Government intend to locate the Post-compulsory Intensive Language Centre?

Mr BARNETT replied:

No decision has been made on the future of Swanbourne Senior High School. Discussions on the school's future have commenced under the Local Area Education Planning Framework. Should Swanbourne Senior High School close, the Intensive Language Centre (ILC) will be relocated either to an individual school, or integrated across a number of schools, depending on the needs of the students.

SCHOOLS - HIGH

Student Contracts

1884. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for Education:

- (1) What is the reason for high schools requiring students to sign contracts?
- (2) When were they introduced?
- (3) What avenues are open to students to negotiate the details in these contracts?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) The student contract is part of a school's Managing Student Behaviour process. It is the semi-formal

extension of introducing students to making commitments to do (or not to do) certain things. These relate to areas such as study, behaviour, social interaction and appearance. It is not a requirement for schools to have student contracts, however, such contracts are advocated internationally in most student behaviour management models.

- (2) These formalised contracts have a long history of use in the State's government schools and, in an informal way, have always been part of classroom management practices.
- (3) The details of the contracts are negotiated between students and school administrators. The extent to which this occurs varies from school to school, as does the form of the contract.

FUEL AND ENERGY - TRANSFORMERS

Sulphur Hexafluoride Technology - Regulations

1892. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for Energy:

- (1) What proportion of transformers used in Western Australia incorporate sulphur hexafluoride technology?
- (2) What regulations specifically cover the installation and operation of transformers utilising sulphur hexafluoride technology?
- (3) If no specific regulations are in use, why not?
- (4) To what extent is switchgear and fusegear incorporating sulphur hexafluoride technology used in Western Australia?
- (5) What regulations specifically cover the disposal of switchgear and fusegear that utilise sulphur hexafluoride technology?
- (6) If no specific regulations are in use, why not?
- (7) What regulations specifically cover the disposal of transformers which utilise sulphur hexafluoride technology?
- (8) If no specific regulations covering disposal are in use, why not?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) The Government is not aware of the use of sulphur hexafluoride as an insulant in any power transformers in Western Australia.
- (2) None.
- (3) The Office of Energy, which handles technical and safety regulation of the electricity industry, has not recommended regulations as there is no demand for such installations.
- (4) Sulphur hexafluoride is used extensively as an insulant in high voltage switchgear, but not fusegear.
- (5) None specifically.
- (6) The electricity industry is generally known to comply with Australian Standard 2791 "Recommendations for the handling of contaminated SF6 gas, and associated are decomposition products, in or from electrical equipment" with respect to any disposal. It has not been seen necessary to mandate this standard.
- (7) None specifically.
- (8) Because such transformers are not known to be in use in Western Australia.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY - JARRAH AND KARRI

Value-added Target Figure

1896. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) How many cubic metres of -
 - (a) jarrah;
 - (b) karri, is now value-added by dry-dressing sawn timber?
- (2) What is the target figure the Government proposes to achieve for each species?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) (a) For the six month period July-December 1996 - 41,600 cubic metres kiln dried sawn timber. There are no records available for the quantity of dressed sawn timber.
 - (b) For the six month period July-December 1996 - 3,392 cubic metres of kiln dried sawn timber. There are no records available for the quantity of dressed sawn timber.
 - (2) Jarrah: 50% of the sawn output is required under contract to be value added, comprising both kiln dried and green value added products.
- Karri: There is no contractual requirement at present. However the timber industry is repositioning the processing, infrastructure and marketing to maximise value adding.

POLICE - OFFICERS

Undercover - Legislation

1908. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Police:

- (1) Is any research being undertaken with respect to the need for legislation prescribing the powers and duties of undercover police officers?
- (2) If so, what is the nature of that research?
- (3) If not, is it intended to do so?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The research is focused on the present case law position with regard to the powers and duties of undercover police officers, and gives consideration to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into the New South Wales Police Service (the Wood Royal Commission), and the legislation already in place in this State, as well as policies and legislative provisions throughout the other States of Australia and in other western countries.
- (3) Not applicable.

SURROGACY BILL - INTRODUCTION

1909. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Health:

- (1) When is it proposed to introduce the Surrogacy Bill to the Legislative Assembly?
- (2) Will the Minister provide me with a draft of the Bill?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) There is no Surrogacy Bill at present, and there is no proposal to introduce a Surrogacy bill to the Legislative Assembly.
- (2) The Health Department has no surrogacy Bill. It is anticipated that artificially assisted surrogacy will be included in the Terms of Reference of the Select Committee on the Human Reproductive Technology Act 1991. Action on this issue will be based on the report and recommendations of the Select Committee.

SCHOOLS - KALGOORLIE-BOULDER

New

1911. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Education:

I refer to the Minister's comments in Parliament on 19 August 1997 and ask -

- (a) what new primary and/or secondary schools are planned for Kalgoorlie-Boulder and when;
- (b) will the Minister and his department be bound by the Steering Committee recommendations with respect to second school options for Eastern Goldfields Senior High School (EGSHS);
- (c) if not, why not;
- (d) what is the timeframe for a decision about EGSHS's future infrastructure?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (a) There are no current plans to establish any new primary or secondary schools in Kalgoorlie-Boulder in the near future.
- (b)-(c) The recommendations of the Steering Committee regarding possible secondary school options for the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area will be considered within the context of Local Area Education Planning. While community consultation and recommendations comprise an important part of this process, it is the responsibility of the Minister to make the final decision.
- (d) Eastern Goldfields Senior High School had an enrolment of 1,318 students in February 1997 and required about six temporary classrooms. The school has 47 permanent effective full teaching areas. Schools in developing areas generally need temporary classrooms. Such facilities are required during the peak period of residential development in an area, and may accommodate the nucleus of a future school. The case for a new secondary school in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area will be reviewed following the publication of the final report of the Steering Committee, which is expected to be completed by early 1998.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - HOMELESS TEENAGERS

Perth City Mission - Report

1916. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

- (1) I refer to the Perth City Mission's Report, how many homeless teenagers are estimated to reside in Western Australia, and of those -
 - (a) how many reside in Perth;
 - (b) how many reside elsewhere, and in which places?
- (2) Are any figures available about the number of high school students who are homeless?
- (3) Will the recommendations of the Report be accepted by you and if so, what is to occur?
- (4) If not, why not?

Mrs PARKER replied:

- (1) As at 30 June 1997, 197 teenagers (up to 20 year olds) were accommodated in Youth Accommodation Services (Supported Accommodation and Assistance Program) throughout the State.
 - (a) 170 in the Perth metropolitan area;
 - (b) 27 across the following country locations: Bunbury, Mandurah, East Pilbara, Kalgoorlie, Karratha.
- (2) No. A significant number of young people indicated as homeless in the Perth City Mission Report, are being supported in accommodation services funded by Family and Children's Services.
- (3)-(4) Perth City Mission's Report has been referred to the Ministerial Advisory Committee for the Supported Accommodation and Assistance Program for consideration.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - HOMELESS CHILDREN

Number

1919. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

Has any research been conducted with respect to the number of homeless children expected during 1998?

Mrs PARKER replied:

No. The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) national data collection enables ongoing monitoring of homelessness.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY - RESOURCES

1925. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

- (1) Further to question on notice No. 398 of 1997, will the Minister advise if the current or former Parliamentary Secretary was provided through the Minister's office or at Government expense (other than what each member of the Parliament is entitled to) -

- (a) an allowance or payment for travel expenditure or overnight accommodation;
 - (b) paper carrying the Parliamentary Secretary's letterhead;
 - (c) staff or staff time?
- (2) How much has been allocated in respect of each of the above items?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

The Minister for Sport and Recreation has provided the following response:

- (1)
 - (a) When representing the Minister the cost of travel and overnight accommodation for the Parliamentary Secretary is met by the Minister's office.
 - (b) Yes.
 - (c) No, however staff from the Minister's office provide support to the Parliamentary Secretary when he is representing the Minister.
- (2) There have been no specific amounts allocated, costs are met as required.

STATE FINANCE - STATE DEBT

Statistics

1927. Mr BROWN to the Treasurer:

- (1) Further to question on notice No. 986 of 1997, what was the total public sector net debt at 30 June 1992?
- (2) What was the total public sector net debt in February 1993?
- (3) In the Treasurer's previous answer, did the Treasurer advise that total public sector net debt at 30 June 1993 was \$8.4 billion with Government agency debt amounting to \$5 721.1 million?
- (4) Can the Treasurer explain the difference between the two figures and explain what agency or facility was indebted for the difference between the two?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) Total public sector net debt at 30 June 1992 was \$8.1 billion.
- (2) Actual net debt figures are only compiled annually. It is therefore not possible to provide debt figures at specific past points in time other than 30 June in the relevant year.
- (3) No. Total public sector net debt at 30 June 1993 was \$8.4 billion, however, the figure of \$5 721.1 million referred only to State Trading Authorities/Corporations or what is defined as the Public Trading Enterprises Sector.
- (4) The difference between the two figures in (3) represents net debt of the General Government Sector at 30 June 1993.

POLICE - WAROONA

Number of Officers

1948. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Police:

- (1) How many Police Officers are based in Waroona?
- (2) Are there any plans to upgrade this office and have a traffic officer based in the town?
- (3) How many traffic officers are based in towns along the South West Highway between Armadale and Bunbury?

Mr DAY replied:

- (1) Three.
- (2) No.
- (3) Since the inception of the Delta Program, Traffic Management and Road Safety is the responsibility of all

Police Officers, and the process of integrating Traffic Patrol Officers in the country with the General Duties Police is well advanced. The availability of sworn Police Officers to carry out traffic duties at the following Police Stations between Armadale and Bunbury are:

Armadale 40, Pinjarra 6, Waroona 3, Yarloop 2, Harvey 8 and Bunbury 54. Mandurah Police also patrol the South West Highway and they have a staff of 62 Sworn Officers.

SCHOOLS - PRIMARY

Augusta - Disabled Student's Aide Time

1949. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the aide time for a disabled student at the Augusta Primary School has been reduced from .4 to .2?
- (2) Is the Minister also aware that the individual teacher time for this student has been reduced from .2 to nothing?
- (3) Will the Minister explain to the school community the reason for this decision?
- (4) Will the Minister review this situation with a view to restoring the extra assistance?
- (5) If not, why not?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) The 0.4 teacher aide time allocated to a disabled student at Augusta Primary School has not been reduced to 0.2.
- (2) The student was originally allocated 0.2 teacher aide time and 0.1 teacher time. The school elected to convert the 0.1 teacher time to 0.2 teacher aide time, giving a total teacher aide allocation of 0.4. This allocation has not been reduced during the 1997 school year.
- (3)-(5) Not applicable.

SCHOOLS - HIGH

North Albany - Demountables

1953. Dr GALLOP to the Minister for Education:

- (1) How many demountables are currently located in the North Albany High School site?
- (2) Can the Minister indicate when these demountables will be replaced by permanent buildings?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) Ten.
- (2) There are no plans to provide additional facilities at North Albany Senior High School, however the needs of the school will continue to be monitored by the Education Department within the context of the Local Area Educational Planning framework.

EDUCATION - PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Model

1954. Mr PENDAL to the Minister for Education:

- (1) What is the intention of the Minister with respect to the development of a Western Australian model for professional accreditation of educational leadership in Western Australia?
- (2) What funds are available for such an initiative?
- (3) Will such a centre reflect the collective needs and aspirations of the Western Australian principalship?
- (4) Will the Minister ensure that the centre promotes, and furthers, the research on school leadership already being undertaken in Western Australian schools and universities?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) The Education Department of Western Australia has no current plans to develop or introduce accreditation of educational leadership in Western Australia but is aware of the work being done by the Western Australian Primary Principals' Association (WAPPA) in relation to the development of a model for accreditation of educational leadership.
- (2) There is no current budget provision.
- (3) There is no indication to which "centre" the question is referring. There are two options:
 - The Centre for Excellence in Teaching is an initiative of the Western Australian Government to support the professionalism of teachers and principals and therefore will also reflect the needs and aspirations of principals.
 - The proposed leadership centre being considered by WAPPA is an independent initiative supported by other Principal Associations and in conjunction with the Australian Principals Centre (which is based in Victoria). The Government will be following the development of this centre with interest.
- (4) Again, there is no indication to which "centre" the question is referring.
 - The Centre for Excellence in Teaching will use a range of research on effective school leadership.
 - WAPPA's leadership program is a vision which will be further developed. It is an independent initiative and the Government will follow its development with interest.

ROTTNEST ISLAND - MOORINGS

Regulations - Inspection Fee

1959. Mr PENDAL to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Is it correct that under new regulations the owners of boat moorings at Rottnest Island will be paying up to \$425 a year on a facility which they have provided?
- (2) Is it also correct that mooring-holders are to be held responsible for illegal use of the moorings by people not associated with them?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the nearest site for the disposal of sullage is 10 nautical miles away at the site which offers only one tank which must service several hundreds of vessels?
- (4) Would the Minister agree that this will encourage irresponsible boat-owners to breach the law?
- (5) Is it also correct that the mooring inspection fee will be charged annually?
- (6) Why is an annual inspection seen as being necessary?
- (7) Does the Minister acknowledge this adds one more financial burden to boat-owners?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following response:

- (1) The new regulation amendments do not affect mooring fees. They have remained unchanged at \$24.50 per metre since 1987.
- (2) It is not entirely clear from the question exactly what is being asked. It can be asking two questions ie: whether
 1. licensees are responsible for the behaviour of people that illegally use their moorings, including any offences committed by these people; or
 2. licensees have a responsibility to people who illegally use their mooring.

The answer to the first understanding of the question is no. There is nothing in either the regulations or the terms and conditions which make a licensee responsible for the actions or omissions of an unauthorised user.

The answer to the second possible question is that in some circumstances the licensee may be responsible to an unauthorised user who suffers loss as a result of using the licensee's mooring. An example of this is

if the mooring fails for an unauthorised user due to the mooring not being properly maintained then the unauthorised user may be able to make a claim against the licensee. This does not mean that automatically the unauthorised user can recover from a licensee, the unauthorised user will still have to show that it is owed a duty and that its loss was the result of negligence.

- (3)-(4) The issue referred to is not the responsibility of the Minister for Tourism and should be referred to the Minister for Transport.
- (5) The mooring licensee is responsible for undertaking an annual inspection to ensure the mooring is safe and well maintained.
- (6) It is standard practice to undertake annual inspections of moorings to ensure moorings are safe and well maintained.
- (7) No, I do not acknowledge this adds one more financial burden. It is a necessary expense to ensure that a mooring is safe and well maintained for public safety, legal and environmental reasons.

JOONDALUP AQUATIC CENTRE - BUDGET ALLOCATION

1971. Mr CARPENTER to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

- (1) Has any money been earmarked in the Budget Forward Estimates for Sport and Recreation for construction of the promised aquatic centre at Joondalup?
- (2) If yes, how much?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) When is construction of the proposed aquatic facility at Joondalup expected to begin?
- (5) When is construction of the proposed aquatic facility at Joondalup expected to be completed?
- (6) What is the estimated cost of the proposed aquatic facility at Joondalup?
- (7) How much of that cost will be met by the State Government?
- (8) Has the City of Wanneroo committed to its share of the funding?
- (9) Has the Council indicated a delay in construction could jeopardise the commitment?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

The Minister for Sport and Recreation has provided the following response:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) \$4.5m will be sought through the Consolidated Fund Capital Works; \$1.5m will be sought through the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF).
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Subject to funding approvals in the first half of 1998.
- (5) Based on an 18 month construction period in the second half of 1999.
- (6) \$10.2m.
- (7) \$7.2m.
- (8) Yes.
- (9) No.

ENVIRONMENT - STEPHENSON AND WARD INCINERATOR CO PTY LTD

Medi-collect Incinerator - Emission Testing

1981. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) How frequently are emissions from the Stephenson and Ward/Medi-Collect incinerator tested?
- (2) Has the frequency of testing been altered recently?

- (3) If so, why?
- (4) Was this in response to pressure from the incinerator owner?
- (5) If not, what is the reason for the change in the frequency?
- (6) Who pays for the tests?
- (7) Who organises the tests?
- (8) Will the reduction in the frequency of tests save the incinerator owner money?
- (9) Were any of the inspections of air emissions from the Stephenson and Ward/Medi-Collect unannounced?
- (10) Is the Department of Environmental Protection proposing to alter any requirement on the operation of the incinerator?
- (11) If so, which one and why?
- (12) Has the Department of Environmental Protection consulted with the community about the change in the frequency of testing?
- (13) If not -
 - (a) why not;
 - (b) will the Minister review this decision and consult with the community about any other change to the frequency of testing air emissions?
- (14) Will the Department of Environmental Protection consult with the community about any other changes to licence conditions?
- (15) If not, why not?
- (16) Will the Minister table all results obtained in testing of the air emissions from the Stephenson and Ward/Medi-Collect incinerator?
- (17) Since the installation of the Stephenson and Ward/Medi-Collect pollution control equipment has the incinerator been operated with the back hatch open and, if so, for what dates, times and duration?
- (18) Has the Department of Environmental Protection directed the Stephenson and Ward/Medi-Collect owners to discontinue the practice of leaving the hatch propped open, to ensure that the risk of emissions is minimised?
- (19) If yes, when?
- (20) Has this instruction been obeyed?
- (21) Has the Department of Environmental Protection subsequently decided that "the hatch can remain ajar with the rake in the incinerator, provided that it is closed prior to the incinerator fan being shut down"?
- (22) If yes, what risks does this pose -
 - (a) to the environment;
 - (b) to workers?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) I am advised that the emission tests are currently undertaken twice yearly.
- (2) Yes. I am advised that the frequency of testing has been reduced from three-monthly to six-monthly. This is consistent with requirements in other States of Australia, where air emission testing of biomedical waste incinerators is undertaken, on either an annual basis, or once every six months.
- (3) I am advised that the change was made after reviewing the previous test results which showed that the incinerator is operating in a stable manner and the emissions were in all cases below the tightest international standards.
- (4) See (3) above.
- (5) It is common for initial testing to be more frequent until stable results are obtained and then frequency is reduced.

- (6) The incinerator operator pays for the tests.
- (7) The incinerator operator organises for the tests to be carried out by a qualified independent testing agent.
- (8) I am not aware that this is the case.
- (9)-(10) Yes.
- (11) The department proposes to alter the replacement frequency of temperature sensors in the combustion chamber from three months to twelve months as certificated testing has shown the temperature sensors to be stable over a twelve month period.
- (12) No. However, I am advised that the department did advise the main community group interested in the Stephenson & Ward incinerator of the changes.
- (13) (a) I am advised that the alteration was regarded as a minor alteration to the Licence conditions of the incinerator.
- (b) No. I do not believe the issue to be of sufficient significance to warrant such action.
- (14) I am advised that the department consults with the community on any significant changes to the incinerator licence conditions as a matter of course.
- (15) Not applicable.
- (16) The monitoring results for all tests undertaken to date are attached. Members of the community have already been furnished with all test results to date.
- (17) I am advised that the department has approved continuous operation of the incinerator with a small hatch partially open, but it is to be closed before the incinerator is to be shut down.
- (18) I am advised that the department initially requested the hatch to remain closed while the incinerator was in operation. This decision was later reviewed by the department and subsequently approval was given for the hatch to remain open.
- (19)-(20) Not applicable.
- (21) See response to (17) above.
- (22) The department would not approve any alteration to the operating conditions of the incinerator, or any other operation, if there was any risk to the environment or workers.

HERITAGE - NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST

Goldfields Region Projects

1984. Ms ANWYL to the Premier:

- (1) I refer to the Premier's media release dated 29 July 1997 with respect to the Natural Heritage Trust Partnership Agreement and ask, what projects will be undertaken in the goldfields region?
- (2) What is the planning process with respect to allocation of moneys?
- (3) What other projects have been identified?
- (4) Identify the time frame for each of the above.

Mr COURT replied:

WA, under Natural Heritage Trust funding arrangements for 1997/98, has submitted a total of 324 new community and national partnership projects for funding consideration by the Natural Heritage Trust Board. Several major projects, if funded by the Commonwealth, will support activities in the Goldfields region, for example:

- (a) Remnant Vegetation Management; and
- (b) Yilgarn Landcare Co-ordinator Project.
- (2) Projects are submitted to the Natural Heritage Trust, Regional Assessment Panels, whose recommendations go to a State Assessment Panel which determines the priorities of projects for funding. Both assessment panels have a majority of community representatives and are chaired by a community member. This list is

endorsed by the Cabinet Sub Committee on Salinity and delivered to the Federal Government's Natural Heritage Trust Board, which determines the total funding allocations.

- (3) Potential NHT projects are identified by community groups and government agencies. Another call for project applications will be made in 1998.
- (4) It is my understanding that the Commonwealth will be making an announcement on the State recommendations within the next few weeks.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - REPORTS

Child Maltreatment and Family Concern - Distinction

1994. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

- (1) When was the distinction between reports of child maltreatment and family concern introduced?
- (2) What are the major criteria for classifying a report of alleged child maltreatment as a child maltreatment, or a family concern report?
- (3) What level of officer makes this determination?
- (4) How many -
 - (a) child maltreatment; and
 - (b) family concern reports,
 have been made since the distinction was introduced?

Mrs PARKER replied:

- (1) The distinction was introduced state wide on 1 May 1996. It was first used in a limited pilot program commenced on 1 June 1995.
- (2) Child Maltreatment Allegation: Where a child is reported to have been subjected to sexual, emotional or physical actions or inactions, the severity and/or persistence of which has resulted in significant harm or injury to the child; or where a child has been subjected to exploitative or inappropriate sexual acts. This includes neglect resulting in injury or developmental delay.

Child Concern Report: Where a concern is expressed for a child's welfare which is related to the quality of his or her home environment or the standard of care he or she receives. After an assessment a decision is made as to whether a child protection service or a family support service is to be provided.
- (3) Level 5 or Level 6.
- (4) Since 1 May 1996 Family and Children's Services has recorded:
2843 Child Maltreatment Allegations;
7721 Child Concern Reports.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - CHILDREN IN NEED OF CARE

Placements

1997. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

- (1) How many children in need of care currently require placements?
- (2) How many carers are available to take children?
- (3) What strategies are being employed to facilitate appropriate placements?

Mrs PARKER replied:

- (1) Placements are found for all children who require them.
- (2) As at 8 September 1997, 760 foster carer households.
- (3) There are principles and minimum Service Standards that must be applied when selecting foster parents. These cover all stages of Assessment, Approval, Registration and Review. Other strategies include:

Implementation of Foster Care Register;

Presentation of Foster Care training;

Delivery of Carer Assessment training for staff;

Preparation of Quality Assurance Audits across Family and Children's Services and funded agencies in Out of Home Care.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - PARENT INFORMATION CENTRES

Number and Location

2000. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

In relation to parent information centres, in each of the last five years and including 1997-98 -

- (a) how many centres operated;
- (b) where were the centres located;
- (c) how many people were assisted by the centres;
- (d) how many FTEs serviced the centres;
- (e) how many volunteers serviced the centres;
- (f) what was the total funding for the centres;
- (g) how many centres had their operations contracted out; and
- (h) what, if any, savings were achieved by contracting out?

Mrs PARKER replied:

None of the Parent Information Centres commenced operation until the 1995/96 Financial Year.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------|---|--|
| (a) | 1995/96 | One. | |
| | 1996/97 | Eight. | |
| | 1997/98 | Eight. | Further services will be developed before the end of the current financial year. |
| (b) | 1995/96 | Mandurah | |
| | 1996/97 | Mandurah
Rockingham
Joondalup
Midland
Mirrabooka
Northam
Albany
South Hedland | |
| | 1997/98 | As above. | |
| (c) | 1995/96 | Centre
Mandurah | Total number of visits to centres
1253 |
| | 1996/97 | Mandurah
Rockingham
Joondalup
Midland
Mirrabooka | 3875
7622
8890
5013
6761 |
| | | South Hedland
Northam
Albany (Mobile) | 854 (Opened May 1997)
699 (Opened February 1997)
1440 (Opened Mar 1997) |
| | 1997/98 | Customer usage data is collected on a quarterly basis and as such is not available for the first quarter of the 1997/98 year. | |
| (d) | 1995/96 | In a full year each service has a full time equivalent of 1.5. | |
| | 1996/97 | As above. | |
| | 1997/98 | As above. | |
| (e) | 1995/96 | Mandurah | 11 volunteers |
| | 1996/97 | Centre
Mandurah | No. of volunteers
27 |

		Rockingham	22
		Joondalup	30
		Midland	10
		Mirrabooka	24
		Northam	8
		Albany	0 (Mobile service only)
		South Hedland	4
	1997/98	Volunteer data is collected on a quarterly basis and as such is not available for the first quarter of the 1997/98 financial year.	
(f)	1995/96	\$ 892,467.00	
	1996/97	\$1,230,443.00	
	1997/98	The total allocation for the Parenting Plus program, of which the Parenting Information Centres are a component, is \$5,043,000.	
(g)	1995/96	Not applicable.	
	1996/97	Not applicable	
	1997/98	Not applicable	
(h)	1995/96	Not applicable	
	1996/97	Not applicable	
	1997/98	Not applicable	

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - PARENT LINK SERVICES

Number and Location

2001. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

In relation to parent link services, in each of the last five years and including 1997-98 -

- (a) how many services operated;
- (b) where did the services operate from;
- (c) how many people were assisted by the services;
- (d) how many FTEs provided the services;
- (e) how many volunteers provided the services;
- (f) what are the requisite qualifications and experience of volunteers;
- (g) what was the total funding for the services;
- (h) how many services were contracted out; and
- (i) what, if any, savings were achieved by contracting out?

Mrs PARKER replied:

None of the Parent Link services commenced until the 1995/96 Financial Year.

(a)	1995/96	Five.
	1996/97	Eleven.
	1997/98	Eleven.
(b)	1995/96	Mandurah Joondalup Geraldton Armadale Scarborough
	1996/97	Armadale Scarborough Geraldton Northam Albany South Hedland Belmont/Canning
		Fremantle Mirrabooka Mandurah Joondalup
	1997/98	As above

- (c) 1995/96 The period for which services were funded in the 1995/96 financial year was used to establish the service, enlist volunteers and promote the service in the community.
- 1996/97
- | Service | Total number assisted |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Armadale | 125 |
| Scarborough | 330 |
| Geraldton | 103 |
| Northam | 98 |
| Albany | 37 |
| South Hedland | 4 |
| Belmont/Canning | 14 |
| Fremantle | 129 |
| Mirrabooka | 29 |
| Mandurah | 152 |
| Joondalup | 150 |
- 1997/98 Customer usage data is collected on a quarterly basis and as such is not available for the first quarter of the 1997/98 year.
- (d) 1995/96 In a full year each service has a full time equivalent of 1.5.
- 1996/97 As above.
- 1997/98 As above.
- (e) 1995/96 Volunteers were recruited and trained but did not provide services to parents in the 1995/96 financial year.
- 1996/97
- | Service | No of volunteers |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Armadale | 23 |
| Scarborough | 30 |
| Geraldton | 18 |
| Northam | 16 |
| Albany | 19 |
| South Hedland | 3 |
| Belmont/Canning | 17 |
| Fremantle | 20 |
| Mirrabooka | 6 |
| Mandurah | 21 |
| Joondalup | 26 |
- 1997/98 This data is collected on a quarterly basis and as such is not available for the first quarter of the 1997/98 year.
- (f) 1995/96 Volunteers working as parent visitors are interviewed and undergo a Police Record Check. The department's Client and Community Services System is accessed. Volunteers must themselves be parents. Volunteers undertake initial core training which includes presentations and workshops on:
- stages of child development;
rights and responsibilities of parent visitors;
skills development;
motivation and volunteering group facilitation skills.
- The Parent Link Coordinator provides training on local community resources and familiarisation with the Service guidelines and role of the parent visitor. Ongoing training is provided through the Community Skills Training Centre.
- 1996/97 As above.
- 1997/98 As above.
- (g) 1995/96 \$330,814
- 1996/97 \$635,202
- 1997/98 The total allocation for the Parenting Plus program, of which the Parent Link services are a component, is \$5,043,000.
- (h) 1995/96 Not applicable.
- 1996/97 Not applicable
- 1997/98 Three
- (i) 1995/96 No Parent Link services were contracted out in the 1995/96 financial year.
- 1996/97 Departmental and non government Parent Links receive the same level of funding.
- 1997/98 As above.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY SERVICES

Funding

2003. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

In each of the last five years and including 1997-98 -

- (a) What was the total funding -
 - (i) allocated to; and
 - (ii) spent on,the Domestic Violence Victim Support and Advocacy Services;
- (b) how many FTEs provided the services; and
- (c) how many people were provided with services?

Mrs PARKER replied:

- (a) Family and Children's Services funding for Domestic Violence Victim Support and Advocacy services commenced in 1996/97.
 - (i) Allocations for 1996/97 and 1997/98 are shown on Schedule A. [See paper No 758.]
 - (ii) Actual payments for 1996/97 are shown on Schedule B. The amounts differ from the allocations due to the services being established part way through the year. Actual payments for 1997/98 cannot be accurately answered until the end of the financial year. [See paper No 758.]
- (b) The services are provided according to Service Agreements with service providers. The FTEs required to provide the services are not stipulated in the agreements and as such cannot be provided.
- (c) The data is not yet available.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT - OAKAJEE

Effect on Fishing Industry

2021. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for the Environment:

What, if any, reviews or inquiries have been undertaken to determine the effect of the proposed Oakajee industrial development on other Geraldton industries, including the fishing and rock lobster industries?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Environmental Protection Authority has previously provided environmental advice to the Minister for the Environment on the following reviews of the impact of the proposed Oakajee Industrial Estate and Deepwater Port:

- Oakajee Industrial Estate Concept, EPA Bulletin 848, April 1997;
- Oakajee Deepwater Port Concept, EPA Bulletin 849, April 1997;
- Mid West Iron and Steel, Geraldton Steel Plant, Oakajee, Bulletin 860, June 1997;
- Oakajee Deepwater Port, EPA Bulletin 866, September 1997.

The EPA has provided advice to the Minister for the Environment on the potential impact of the port and industrial estate proposals on the Western Rock Lobster fishery in the industrial estate and port Bulletins.

ANIMAL WELFARE LEGISLATION - DRAFTING

2025. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Is it correct that legislation related to animal welfare is currently being drafted?
- (2) Given that in the Minister's letter to me dated 23 May 1997 the Minister stated it was intended to introduce such a Bill into parliament later that year, what is the explanation for the long delay in the legislation reaching the drafting stage?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The legislation was delayed in part by the conduct of the State election and in part because of other legislative priorities. The Government is committed to introducing an Animal Welfare Bill into the Autumn session of Parliament in 1998.

TRANSPORT - DEPARTMENT

Workplace Agreements - Registration

2026. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How many employees of the Department of Transport have entered into Western Australian workplace agreements since the start of 1996?
- (2) How many of these employees have had their workplace agreement registered with the Workplace Agreements Commission in each month starting from January 1996 up to and including August 1997?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following response:

- (1) 452 employees have entered into a workplace agreement since the start of 1996 (as at 9/9/97).
- (2)

March 1996	-	1 individual Work Place Agreement registered.
May 1996	-	2 individual Work Place Agreements registered.
August 1996	-	1 individual Work Place Agreement registered.
July 1997	-	71 staff were registered as signatories to Transport's collective Work Place Agreements
August 1997	-	4 new employees were registered as signatories to the collective Work Place Agreements

Due to an administrative oversight, the signatories to this agreement were not registered at this time. This oversight was not discovered until the new WPA of July 1997 was registered, by which time there was only two months of the original WPA to run before its expiry on 21 September 1997. This has now been rectified.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - INDEMNITIES

Nature and Extent of Liability

2032. Mr KOBELKE to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs:

- (1) Have any agencies or departments for which the Premier is responsible offered any form of indemnity or remain liable under any indemnity?
- (2) If any such indemnity has been offered then -
 - (a) to whom has it been extended;
 - (b) what is the reason for the indemnity;
 - (c) what is the maximum potential liability that could be called on through this indemnity?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1) There are two sources of power for the Government to offer a guarantee or indemnity. They are either:
 - (a) offered pursuant to a specific statutory power to do so, in which case they are characterised as a Statutory Guarantee or Indemnity or,
 - (b) if there is no specific statutory provision, the guarantee or indemnity is referred to as a Surety.

Some common guarantees and indemnities, generally those which are not offered pursuant to a statute, referred to above as "sureties", are:

 - (c) incidental to another function, such as the purchase of a good or service (for example a contract where the purchaser indemnifies the supplier of software against any unauthorised use of that software or a contract for advertising where the advertiser indemnifies the publisher against legal action arising out of the publication of the advertisement) or,

- (d) granted to persons or officers in the performance of their duties for the State or for any public authority or public body of the State (some of which are statutory).

All Statutory Indemnities, Guarantees and Sureties which are either (c) or (d) are excluded from the operation of Treasurer's Instruction 821 (TI 821). TI 821 requires all indemnities and guarantees which are not of the excluded types, statutory and otherwise, to be entered in a register. They are then included in the Treasurer's Annual Statements which are tabled in Parliament. For details of all such guarantees and indemnities as at 30 June 1996 see the Treasurer's Annual Statements 1995-96. TI 821 does not apply to indemnities falling within (c) and (d). This is appropriate as the nature of these indemnities means that they arise as part of the everyday affairs of government.

- (2) Researching contracts entered into in order to ascertain whether there is an incidental indemnity in each contract would be an unreasonable diversion of resources. It would also not be a particularly useful exercise because:
 - (a) in many instances the contract has already been successfully completed;
 - (b) circumstances surrounding a contract and an arising claim may give rise to an implied obligation to indemnify even where there is no express obligation; and
 - (c) it would be impossible to state any maximum potential liability.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - INDEMNITIES

Nature and Extent of Liability

2048. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) Have any agencies or departments for which the Minister is responsible offered any form of indemnity or remain liable under any indemnity?
- (2) If any such indemnity has been offered then -
 - (a) to whom has it been extended;
 - (b) what is the reason for the indemnity;
 - (c) what is the maximum potential liability that could be called on through this indemnity?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Minister for the Arts has provided the following response:

- (1) There are two sources of power for the Government to offer a guarantee or indemnity. They are either:
 - (a) offered pursuant to a specific statutory power to do so, in which case they are characterised as a Statutory Guarantee or Indemnity or,
 - (b) if there is no specific statutory provision, the guarantee or indemnity is referred to as a Surety.

Some common guarantees and indemnities, generally those which are not offered pursuant to a statute, referred to above as "sureties", are:

- (c) incidental to another function, such as the purchase of a good or service (for example a contract where the purchaser indemnifies the supplier of software against any unauthorised use of that software or a contract for advertising where the advertiser indemnifies the publisher against legal action arising out of the publication of the advertisement) or,
- (d) granted to persons or officers in the performance of their duties for the State or for any public authority or public body of the State (some of which are statutory).

All Statutory Indemnities, Guarantees and Sureties which are either (c) or (d) are excluded from the operation of Treasurer's Instruction 821 (TI 821). TI 821 requires all indemnities and guarantees which are not of the excluded types, statutory and otherwise, to be entered in a register. They are then included in the Treasurer's Annual Statements which are tabled in Parliament. For details of all such guarantees and indemnities as at 30 June 1996 see the Treasurer's Annual Statements 1995-96. TI 821 does not apply to indemnities falling within (c) and (d). This is appropriate as the nature of these indemnities means that they arise as part of the everyday affairs of government.

- (2) Researching contracts entered into in order to ascertain whether there is an incidental indemnity in each contract would be an unreasonable diversion of resources. It would also not be a particularly useful exercise because:
- (a) in many instances the contract has already been successfully completed;
 - (b) circumstances surrounding a contract and an arising claim may give rise to an implied obligation to indemnify even where there is no express obligation; and
 - (c) it would be impossible to state any maximum potential liability.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - INDEMNITIES

Nature and Extent of Liability

2050. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) Have any agencies or departments for which the Attorney General is responsible offered any form of indemnity or remain liable under any indemnity?
- (2) If any such indemnity has been offered then -
 - (a) to whom has it been extended;
 - (b) what is the reason for the indemnity;
 - (c) what is the maximum potential liability that could be called on through this indemnity?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following response:

- (1) There are two sources of power for the Government to offer a guarantee or indemnity. They are either:
 - (a) offered pursuant to a specific statutory power to do so, in which case they are characterised as a Statutory Guarantee or Indemnity or,
 - (b) if there is no specific statutory provision, the guarantee or indemnity is referred to as a Surety.

Some common guarantees and indemnities, generally those which are not offered pursuant to a statute, referred to above as "sureties", are:

- (c) incidental to another function, such as the purchase of a good or service (for example a contract where the purchaser indemnifies the supplier of software against any unauthorised use of that software or a contract for advertising where the advertiser indemnifies the publisher against legal action arising out of the publication of the advertisement) or,
- (d) granted to persons or officers in the performance of their duties for the State or for any public authority or public body of the State (some of which are statutory).

All Statutory Indemnities, Guarantees and Sureties which are either (c) or (d) are excluded from the operation of Treasurer's Instruction 821 (TI 821). TI 821 requires all indemnities and guarantees which are not of the excluded types, statutory and otherwise, to be entered in a register. They are then included in the Treasurer's Annual Statements which are tabled in Parliament. For details of all such guarantees and indemnities as at 30 June 1996 see the Treasurer's Annual Statements 1995-96. TI 821 does not apply to indemnities falling within (c) and (d). This is appropriate as the nature of these indemnities means that they arise as part of the everyday affairs of government.

- (2) Researching contracts entered into in order to ascertain whether there is an incidental indemnity in each contract would be an unreasonable diversion of resources. It would also not be a particularly useful exercise because:
 - (a) in many instances the contract has already been successfully completed;
 - (b) circumstances surrounding a contract and an arising claim may give rise to an implied obligation to indemnify even where there is no express obligation; and
 - (c) it would be impossible to state any maximum potential liability.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - INDEMNITIES

Nature and Extent of Liability

2052. Mr KOBELKE to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Have any agencies or departments for which the Minister is responsible offered any form of indemnity or remain liable under any indemnity?
- (2) If any such indemnity has been offered then -
 - (a) to whom has it been extended;
 - (b) what is the reason for the indemnity;
 - (c) what is the maximum potential liability that could be called on through this indemnity?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) There are two sources of power for the Government to offer a guarantee or indemnity. They are either:
 - (a) offered pursuant to a specific statutory power to do so, in which case they are characterised as a Statutory Guarantee or Indemnity or,
 - (b) if there is no specific statutory provision, the guarantee or indemnity is referred to as a Surety.

Some common guarantees and indemnities, generally those which are not offered pursuant to a statute, referred to above as "sureties", are:

- (c) incidental to another function, such as the purchase of a good or service (for example a contract where the purchaser indemnifies the supplier of software against any unauthorised use of that software or a contract for advertising where the advertiser indemnifies the publisher against legal action arising out of the publication of the advertisement) or,
- (d) granted to persons or officers in the performance of their duties for the State or for any public authority or public body of the State (some of which are statutory).

All Statutory Indemnities, Guarantees and Sureties which are either (c) or (d) are excluded from the operation of Treasurer's Instruction 821 (TI 821). TI 821 requires all indemnities and guarantees which are not of the excluded types, statutory and otherwise, to be entered in a register. They are then included in the Treasurer's Annual Statements which are tabled in Parliament. For details of all such guarantees and indemnities as at 30 June 1996 see the Treasurer's Annual Statements 1995-96. TI 821 does not apply to indemnities falling within (c) and (d). This is appropriate as the nature of these indemnities means that they arise as part of the everyday affairs of government.

- (2) Researching contracts entered into in order to ascertain whether there is an incidental indemnity in each contract would be an unreasonable diversion of resources. It would also not be a particularly useful exercise because:
 - (a) in many instances the contract has already been successfully completed;
 - (b) circumstances surrounding a contract and an arising claim may give rise to an implied obligation to indemnify even where there is no express obligation; and
 - (c) it would be impossible to state any maximum potential liability.

TRANSPORT - DEPARTMENT

Ningaloo Limestone Quarries

2068. Dr GALLOP to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

With regard to the quarrying of limestone for the construction of a marina in the Ningaloo area -

- (a) can the Minister confirm that these quarries are the responsibility of the Department of Transport;
- (b) if yes, will this department be responsible for the rehabilitation of these sites when quarrying is finished;
- (c) if no to (1) above, which department is responsible?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (a)-(b) Yes.
- (c) Not applicable.

MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA - SUBURBAN MOTOR WRECKERS

Purchase

2071. Ms MacTIERNAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Did Main Roads Department (MRD) purchase a business which traded as Suburban Motor Wreckers in Riverton?
- (2) If yes -
 - (a) when was the business purchased;
 - (b) from whom was it purchased;
 - (c) what price was paid for each of the following -
 - (i) land;
 - (ii) stock;
 - (iii) plant;
 - (iv) hotline access;
 - (v) goodwill?
- (3) Has the business now been sold by MRD?
- (4) If yes -
 - (a) when was the business sold;
 - (b) what price was paid by the purchaser;
 - (c) how was the purchaser selected;
 - (d) how was the purchase price determined?

Mr OMODEI replied:

I presume the member is referring to Rivervale and my response is on that basis.

- (1) Yes.
- (2)
 - (a) Compensation was paid on June 6 1997.
 - (b) Wilstan Enterprises Pty Ltd, for the lease and Mrs L P Taylor for the freehold.
 - (c)
 - (i) An advance payment of \$331 000 has been made for the freehold. However, the owner is still in dispute with Main Roads as to its value.
 - (ii)-(v) Full compensation of \$370 000 has been finalised with the lessee and included stock, plant, equipment, hotline access, goodwill, solatium and consequential losses.
- (3) The business was extinguished by the resumption.
- (4) Stock, plant equipment and hotline were sold by auction/tender and returned \$27 712.

TOURISM - JAPANESE MARKET

Decline - Role of Qantas Airways

2090. Mr BROWN to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of an article that appeared in *The Australian Financial Review* on 18 July 1997 which reported claims by a lecturer in marketing at the University of New South Wales, Mr Roger March, that Qantas Airways holds some of the responsibility for the decline in Australian tourism from the crucial Japanese market?
- (2) Has the Minister and/or the Tourism Commission examined the degree to which, if at all, the claims made by Mr March are true?

- (3) Has the State Government made any representations to Qantas Airways on any of the matters raised by Mr March including claims that the national carrier held its fare prices "too high, for too long"?
- (4) Is the Minister also aware of the criticism Mr March had of the airline's decision to switch its focus from destination marketing to brand advertising?
- (5) Has the Minister and/or the Tourism Commission examined the degree to which, if at all, those criticisms are valid?
- (6) Has the State Government made any representations to Qantas in this regard?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes I am aware of the article referred to by the member, however I would like to point out that whilst the Japanese inbound market has slowed at the national level, this is not the case in relation to Western Australia. According to the latest figures available for the calendar year ending 1996, the Japanese visitor numbers to Australia grew at a rate of 3.9% whereas the figures into Western Australia grew by 9.9% over the same period. I am sure the member would agree this is a good result for our State and would also like to know the 1996 annual survey undertaken by the largest consumer travel magazine in Japan, *AB Road*, rated Perth the 2nd top city in the world as a destination which satisfies the Japanese market expectations.

The decline in Japanese visitor numbers to the east coast is a firm indicator the Japanese visitor is looking for a broader range of experiences and within a more flexible itinerary in Australia. Similarly, WA's good increase is reflective of Western Australia's good efforts in this difficult market. Therefore, Western Australia is ideally positioned, with its vast range of nature based activities, to capitalise on this need in the Japanese market place. The WATC's current strategies in Japan are specifically targeted towards positioning this State as the leading Australian destination for the Japanese traveller wanting a more flexible itinerary and is reaping the rewards.

- (3) The WATC is across all the issues relevant to the current state of the Japanese market and has constant dialogue with Qantas both here in Australia and in Japan. The Commission, as recently as Thursday 18 September, had a meeting with senior Qantas officials responsible for the airline's scheduling to discuss these and other issues relevant to WA's position in developing the inbound market from Japan into Perth. The outcome of the discussions was most positive.
- (4)-(5) Yes. This direction, however, has now been changed and Qantas, with strategic partners such as the Australian Tourist Commission (ATC) and selected Japanese tour operators, is undertaking a major integrated marketing campaign that will feature destination advertising and price and product. This destination focused approach has been brought about by research undertaken by Qantas and the ATC through the Japan Summit. The ongoing campaign will focus on six segments, two of which - young families and mature aged travellers - Western Australia is well placed to generate increased Japanese visitor numbers. The WATC will be actively involved with the ATC during this part of their campaign which targets these two particular segments.
- (6) As previously advised, the Government has, through the WATC, constant dialogue with Qantas both here in Australia and Japan. The views expressed by Mr March are not necessarily shared by all parties. Whilst Qantas was slow to react to the need to address the low airfare issue, it should be noted that during the period of major growth from Japan, the figures were far more expensive to Australia than to the US. The airfare is an important issue however, it is not the only reason for the slow down in Japan visitation. The Japan market has become somewhat blasé about Australia as a destination and the product currently on offer. Product development is a major issue as the Japanese visitor is looking for a broader range of experience. Western Australia, with its vast range of nature based activities is well placed to cater for the needs of the new Japanese traveller.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS - REPORTS

Contract Details

2092. Mr BROWN to the Deputy Premier:

- (1) Further to question on notice 1471 of 1997, can the Deputy Premier advise if the periodic reports the Government publishes on the extent of contracting out through the Western Australian Public Sector contain the names of the contractors awarded contracts, the contract price and the work undertaken by the contractor?

- (2) Does the Government produce any reports which detail such information?
- (3) If so, what is the name of that report(s)?
- (4) If not, in what way does the Government inform the Parliament of contracts entered into, the amount of those contracts and work undertaken under the contract?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1) The reports produced following the annual surveys of contracting for services across the WA public sector were intended to provide aggregate information and performance data on an agency and whole-of-government basis, with additional analysis of contracting activity by various service categories. As such, they did not contain any information about individual contracts, whether in terms of the names of contractors, contract prices or the specific work being undertaken.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) The regular Report on Consultants Engaged by Government, tabled in Parliament every six months or so, lists the names of consultancy firms and individual consultants awarded work with public sector agencies, together with the cost of those consultancy arrangements.
- (4) Tens of thousands of contracts for goods and services are let each year by public sector agencies. In response to the Commission on Government's eleventh recommendation, the Government has committed itself to enhanced disclosure of contract information. Cabinet has recently endorsed the report of the Financial Negotiations Assessment Committee, which included a workable strategy for giving effect to the Government's position on the COG recommendation. This strategy will include:
 - individual contract award details (contractor's name; brand/model of accepted items or nature of service; and contract price) being made available by the contract principal on specific request; and
 - preparation of a "final contract obligations" document (for all contracts over \$50,000) which will be made available for public inspection and copying upon payment of a prescribed fee.

In addition, and as previously advised, work is continuing on the development of an internet based electronic bulletin board, which would be able to provide information about upcoming government tenders as well as to display information on contracts awarded. It is intended that essential contract data will be publicly accessible through the bulletin board, consistent with the Government's commitment to make available contract information in response to the COG recommendation.

ROADS - REID HIGHWAY

Extension - Installation of Noise Bunds

2095. Mr BROWN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has the Minister or Main Roads Western Australia received representations from residents about noise bunds being provided along the new section of the eastern Reid Highway extension?
- (2) Will the noise bunds be provided?
- (3) If so, when?
- (4) If not, why not?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(3) Noise bunds are planned to be provided when the second carriageway is constructed.
- (4) Not applicable.

ROADS - ROE HIGHWAY

Stage Two Wimbledon-Rupert Link - Use of Scheme Water

2108. Ms McHALE to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) I refer to the use of scheme water for construction purposes on the Roe Highway Stage Two Wimbledon Rupert Link and ask, why is scheme water being used?

- (2) How much has been used since the commencement of stage two?
- (3) Who will be billed for this water?
- (4) What water source will be used during the summer months should the currently used retention basins dry up?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following responses:

- (1) Other suitable sources of water were not available.
- (2) 30 000 kilolitres.
- (3) The contractor.
- (4) Scheme water unless other suitable supplies become available.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - HOMELESS CHILDREN

Research

2111. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

Has any research been conducted with respect to the number of homeless children expected during 1998?

Mrs PARKER replied:

No. The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program national data collection enables ongoing monitoring of homelessness.

ROADS - ENNIS AVENUE, ROCKINGHAM

Pedestrian Overpass

2115. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has the Government considered constructing a pedestrian overpass over Ennis Avenue from Grange Avenue to Eleanor Avenue, Rockingham?
- (2) Is the Government going to construct this overpass given that the highway is the busiest in this area?
- (3) If so, what time frame has been placed on the project's completion?
- (4) If not, why not?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following responses:

- (1)-(4) Although an overpass would provide a high level of protection for pedestrians from traffic, construction has not been recommended by Main Roads because:
 - * the aged and physically disabled would experience difficulty in using such a facility;
 - * the relatively low number of pedestrians crossing Ennis Avenue;
 - * a signalised pedestrian crossing is available on the southern leg of the Grange Drive intersection with Ennis Avenue; and
 - * a warden controlled facility already exists to assist school children when crossing Ennis Avenue.

CONTRACTORS - TREATMENT AS EMPLOYEES

Decision of NSW Court of Appeal

2119. Mr BROWN to the Premier:

- (1) Does the Premier recall comments he made on page 3860 of *Hansard* earlier this year concerning the decision of the New South Wales Court of Appeal in Fabu Pty Ltd on the treatment of contractors as employees?
- (2) Did the Premier say that Treasuries in all jurisdictions are considering an appropriate response to the decision?

- (3) Has the Premier received any advice from Treasury on the decision or on the issue of contractor/employee relationships for taxation and other purposes?
- (4) Has Treasury produced one or more reports on the matter?
- (5) Has Treasury made any recommendations?
- (6) Has the Ministry requested from Treasury one or more reports on the matter?
- (7) How many reports have been produced?
- (8) Are any of the reports publicly available?
- (9) If not, why not?

Mr COURT replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3)-(9) In light of the need to devote available resources to respond to the High Court decisions relating to business franchise fees and State taxes applying to Commonwealth places, the Heads of State Treasuries agreed to defer work on this matter until 1998. Therefore no reports have been prepared.

FORESTS AND FORESTRY - DIEBACK

Research

2127. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) How much will be spent in 1997-98 -
 - (a) researching dieback;
 - (b) treating dieback;
 - (c) preventing dieback?
- (2) What money does the Commonwealth contribute and to which of the three categories above?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1)
 - (a) CALM has budgeted \$498,800 for this work in 1997/98.
 - (b) CALM is still evaluating the costs and methodology of the pilot program of aerial phosphite application which was conducted in autumn 1996. It is intended that further spraying will be undertaken in 1998 but a budget has not yet been established.
 - (c) CALM has budgeted \$830,000 for hygiene management, the detection and mapping of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* and for the design and implementation of hygienic operations to ensure that human vectoring is minimised.
- (2) The Commonwealth, through Environment Australia, has entered into two contracts with CALM for *Phytophthora* threat abatement in Western Australia. The first commenced in late 1996 and involves the preparation of a National Threat Abatement Plan for *Phytophthora* spp. This contract, valued at \$120,000, is due for completion later this year. This relates to all three categories as well as additional work. The second commenced in July 1997 and provides \$500,000 over 12 months for joint Environment Australia-CALM *Phytophthora* Management and Research Projects. This relates principally to research and phosphite treatment.

ROADS - POINT ANN

Repairs

2128. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) When will the Department of Conservation and Land Management undertake repairs to the road to Point Ann?
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these repairs?
- (3) When was the road last upgraded (prior to current need for repair)?

- (4) What was the cost of the upgrade?
- (5) What other roads are planned for the Fitzgerald River National Park?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Repairs commenced on 22 September 1997.
- (2) Approximately \$10,000.
- (3) 1994/95.
- (4) \$35,000.
- (5) None.

PLANNING - GILLON STREET, KARAWARA

Bushland

2131. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Has the Minister made representations to both the Minister for Planning and the Minister for Housing to try to ensure valuable bushland is not necessarily lost in urban developments?
- (2) In particular, what action has the Minister taken regarding the Gillon Street bushland in Karawara?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Bushland conservation issues have been discussed with both the Minister for Planning and the Minister for Housing. A further meeting on this issue is planned in the near future. As you may be aware Draft Perth's Bushplan is due to be released for public comment later this year and protection of bushland in Metropolitan Perth is its primary objective.
- (2) The Gillon Street bushland is considered to be of local rather than regional significance. As such it is primarily an issue for local government to address. However, I have met with the Urban Bushland Council and representatives of community groups concerned over the proposed development of the Gillon Street bushland. I have asked the Department of Environmental Protection to liaise directly with the City of South Perth in relation to the Gillon Street bushland and understand that substantial liaison and discussion has occurred between the parties.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - MINISTER

Power to Vary Recommendations

2133. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Given the Minister's statement to the House on 19 June 1997 when two proposals were referred to the Local Government Advisory Board, that "I can only accept or reject a recommendation; I cannot vary it or force my will on the Board", why were the recommendations altered?
- (2) In the Background Paper No. 1, p. 6, (issued at the public meeting on 16 August 1997) the Advisory Board states "... communities should ideally not be split and divided in two by the placement of local government boundaries." Why then is the Minister splitting Maylands - one of the oldest suburbs, and rich in history of Western Australia - along the railway line?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1) The recommendations from the Local Government Advisory Board in its report *Options for Stirling and Wanneroo*, arose from my reference to the Board under Section 2.45(1)(c) of the Local Government Act 1995. This section enables the Minister to direct the Board to carry out other inquiries in addition to formal inquiries into boundary change proposals. My statement to the House on 19 June 1997 announced two formal proposals for the Board to consider. It is now considering these under the provisions of Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995. Under these provisions, I can only accept or reject a recommendation from the Board in relation to these formal proposals.
- (2) I have referred a proposal regarding Maylands to the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is currently evaluating this proposal and will present me with its recommendation.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - ADVISORY BOARD

Costs

2134. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for Local Government:

What cost has the Local Government Advisory Board incurred to date?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Local Government Advisory Board has incurred costs totalling \$284 500 (to end of August 1997).

ENVIRONMENT - DERBY REGION

Earthquake Activity

2139. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that on 10 August 1997 at 5.20 p.m. an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter Scale struck the Derby region?
- (2) Given that Derby is located in an area subject to significant seismic activity, why did the works approval application exporting zinc and lead concentrates through Derby, West Kimberley (May 1997) fail to assess earthquake activity in its environmental appraisal of Derby and King Sound?
- (3) Will the Minister ensure the environmental assessments of projects in this area now include potential earthquake activity?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Derby is not located in a significant seismic zone. According to the Australian Geological Survey Organisation, the earthquake hazard risk for the Derby area is low to moderate, and as such does not warrant any exceptional consideration. Notwithstanding this the facility is designed in accordance with Australian Standard 1170.4 - Earthquake Loads.
- (3) The Environmental Protection Authority will continue to ensure that all relevant environmental issues are considered when it assesses development proposals.

ENVIRONMENT - PINJAR PIGGERY

New Licence - Conditions

2140. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Has the Department for Environmental Protection (DEP) issued a new licence to the owners of the Pinjar Piggery near Lake Pinjar?
- (2) If so, what conditions have been placed on the licence?
- (3) How do these differ from the conditions initially proposed by the DEP?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The conditions are contained within the current licence. [See paper No 759.].
- (3) The previous conditions imposed on Pinjar Piggery are contained in the previous licence - see paper No 759. Given that the piggery is located over a Priority 1 Underground Water Pollution Control Area, that is Perth's future drinking water supply, the DEP has tightened the licence requirements to better reflect the environmental protection status of the area.

ENVIRONMENT - KANGAROOS

Orbivirus - Impact

2141. Dr EDWARDS to the Minister for the Environment:

- (1) Have any viruses from the "orbivirus" group been detected in Western Australian kangaroos?

- (2) If so, which "orbivirus"?
- (3) What numbers of kangaroos have been affected?
- (4) What procedures have been put in place to control the spread of the virus?
- (5) What is the impact of these viruses on the kangaroo population?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The virus has been given the common name of "Wallal" virus, as it was identified from samples obtained in the vicinity of "Wallal Downs" in the Pilbara.
- (3) It is not possible to give a precise estimate of the number of kangaroos affected by the virus. Studies carried out in New South Wales and elsewhere indicate that on average some 10% of the population of Western Grey Kangaroos, which is the species most affected by the virus, that come into contact with the virus will develop the kangaroo viral blindness disease. As with most viruses, the health and fitness of the animals exposed to the virus has a bearing on the proportion that will become diseased. Indications from field reports in Western Australia between December 1995 and July 1997 are that the virus passed through populations of Western Grey Kangaroos across this State during that period, affecting hundreds of kangaroos, but having no significant effect on the overall abundance of the species. Studies of the earlier outbreaks in South Australia and New South Wales, where larger numbers of kangaroos were affected, have shown that the populations recovered very rapidly, within a year or so, with no detectable significant long term impact on population levels.
- (4) Studies conducted to date indicate that the Wallal virus is spread by common sandflies of the genus *Culicoides*. There is no cure or treatment for kangaroos affected by the disease and no vaccine available to prevent infection. Even if a vaccine were available, it is not practical to administer a vaccine to wild kangaroos. It is also not possible to implement broadscale control of sandflies across the State. The best management strategy for dealing with such a virus is to monitor its spread through kangaroo populations, identify any significant impacts on populations and incorporate findings into kangaroo management as required.
- (5) See (3) above. The virus has had no significant detectable impact on kangaroo populations in Western Australia.

COURTS - FAMILY

Application Fees - Discrepancy

2165. Mr CARPENTER to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that an application to the Family Court by a married couple carries a fee of \$150 but costs nothing for de facto couples?
- (2) If yes, why does this discrepancy in fees exist?
- (3) Are there any plans to adjust the fees so they are aligned?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The Federal Government introduced fees under the Family Law Act 1975 in September 1996. De facto applications are filed under the Family Court Act 1975 (State).
- (3) I am currently considering the matter.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

Staff - Designations and Levels

2167. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) How many staff are employed in the Ministry of Justice investigations section?

- (2) What are their designations and levels?
- (3) How many staff were employed in the Ministry of Justice investigations section prior to the commencement of 1994?
- (4) What were their designations and levels?
- (5) How many additional staff hold informal positions in the Ministry of Justice investigations section?
- (6) What are their substantive positions and levels?
- (7) What level are these informal positions being paid in the investigations section?
- (8) What duties and responsibilities are they carrying out?
- (9) On what date did they last perform in their substantive position?
- (10) How many staff are acting in vacant positions in the investigations section?
- (11) What is the maximum number of staff in both substantive and informal positions that have been employed in the investigations section during the 1996-97 financial year?
- (12) Are there any investigators with the Ministry of Justice investigations section who were previously police officers who worked on the task force inquiring into corrupt or improper practices within the Ministry of Justice?
- (13) If so, how many?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) Six.
- (2) 1 x Manager (Level 8).
4 x Internal Investigators (Level 6).
1 x Administration Assistant (Acting Level 2).
- (3) Three.
- (4) 1 x Investigations Officer (Level 7).
2 x Assistant Investigations Officers (Level 5).
- (5) Two.
- (6) 1 x Assistant Superintendent Security (Level 5).
1 x Prison Officer.
- (7) Level 5.
- (8) Internal Investigations.
- (9) 1 x October 5 1994.
1 x October 9 1994.
- (10) Nil.
- (11) Eight.
- (12) Yes.
- (13) Four.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - INVESTIGATIONS AND INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS SECTIONS

Location

2169. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Where are the Ministry of Justice investigations and information and analysis sections now located?
- (2) How much did that building cost to -
 - (a) build (in the 1980's);

- (b) extend (in the 1990's);
- (c) renovate for current use?
- (3) How many people use the building as their permanent place of employment?
- (4) Did the Government abandon any plans to use the building to accommodate prisoners because of pressure by local authorities?
- (5) Did the Government abandon any plans to reuse Bartons Mill Prison because of pressure by local residents?
- (6) How many minimum security prisoners could these two locations have held?
- (7) Does the Government have any intention to expand the number of prisoners held at any other minimum security prison?
- (8) If so, by how many?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) The former Work Release Unit at the Metropolitan Prison Complex, Canning Vale.
- (2)
 - (a) Approximately \$700,000
 - (b) Approximately \$100,000
 - (c) Approximately \$350,000.
- (3) 17.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) The decision not to use the site was made on operational and financial grounds and in keeping with the Government's commitment to not use the site as a prison.
- (6) The Work Release Unit had been planned to accommodate 45 prisoners. Upgrading to Barton's Mill Plan would have accommodated 130 prisoners.
- (7)-(8) The Government is currently considering a range of options regarding the accommodation of minimum, medium and maximum security prisoners.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

Grievances

2171. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) How many grievances have been laid against the Executive Director, offender management?
- (2) Who has laid these grievances?
- (3) What are these grievances?
- (4) What action has the Ministry taken to resolve these grievances?
- (5) Have any of these grievances been referred to a consultant, Mr Les Smith, for investigation and/or resolution?
- (6) If so, how many?
- (7) How many investigations/enquiries have been referred to Mr Les Smith by the Director General?
- (8) How many of these have been resolved?
- (9) How many are currently unresolved?
- (10) When is it anticipated they will be resolved?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1)-(10) The matter of grievances lodged under the Public Sector Management Act 1994 about alleged breaches of

standard under that Act is based on appropriate confidentiality being maintained. This is set out in item 9.8 of the Grievance Resolution Standard recently published by the office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Standards. Therefore, I am not prepared to provide information about the individual grievances requested in the question.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - OFFICERS

Suspended - Return to Substantive Positions

2172. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) In the last three years, have all officers who were charged under the Criminal Code and suspended been returned to their substantive positions?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) Have all officers who were charged and suspended under the Public Sector Management Act 1994 relating to the Chapman incident been returned to their substantive positions?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) Have all officers been returned to their designated positions prior to charges being laid?
- (6) If not, why not?
- (7) Was a suitable officer specific return to work strategy developed to ensure a smooth transition from suspension to work took place?
- (8) If so, who was responsible for the strategy?
- (9) Who implemented it?
- (10) Was the process evaluated?
- (11) If not, why not?
- (12) If yes, by whom?
- (13) What was the result of the evaluation?
- (14) What was the process or formula utilized to carry out the evaluation?
- (15) Were the strategies utilized for the return to work less than adequate?
- (16) Have any officers suffered a reduction in working conditions as a result of suspension and subsequent return to work?
- (17) If so, who?
- (18) If so, why?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) No.
- (2) To date one officer has yet to be found a substantive position at his substantive level.
- (3) No.
- (4) To date one officer has yet to be found a substantive position at his substantive level.
- (5) No.
- (6) See (2) and (4).
- (7) Yes.
- (8) Executive Director - Offender Management Division.
- (9) A number of officers from the Human Resources and Offender Management areas of the Ministry of Justice.

- (10) No.
- (11) It has not been completed yet - see (2) and (4).
- (12)-(14) Not applicable.
- (15) See (11).
- (16) All of those officers who have returned to their substantive position at their substantive level have not suffered a reduction in working conditions.
- (17)-(18) Not applicable.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT

Restructuring - Reasons

2173. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Are there any budget savings on the restructured special operations unit?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, what are they?
- (4) Does the restructured unit offer the same standards of service prior to 1994?
- (5) If not, why not?
- (6) What were the reasons for the restructuring of the unit?
- (7) Was the restructuring a result of the so-called Chapman incident?
- (8) Does the restructured special operations unit continue to offer the same or better services to ensure the safety of staff and civilians that was provided prior to the restructure?
- (9) Will armed guards be placed in gun towers at metropolitan prisons as a result of this restructure?
- (10) Is the special operations unit to be relocated to the Canning Vale Prison complex?
- (11) If so, why was the special operations unit moved from Canning Vale in the first instance?
- (12) Who was responsible for each of these decisions?
- (13) What are the detailed costs associated with these moves?
- (14) Who is the substantive Superintendent of the special operations unit?
- (15) Is the Superintendent of the special operations unit the substantive Superintendent of the special operations unit?
- (16) If not, what length of time has the Superintendent been acting in the substantive position?
- (17) What is the Superintendent's substantive position?
- (18) Was due process carried out in advertising and filling the vacant acting position of Superintendent, special operations unit?
- (19) If not, why not?
- (20) Who appointed the current designated Superintendent of the special operations unit to that position?
- (21) Did any interview take place?
- (22) Was there a selection panel?
- (23) If so, who were the panel members?
- (24) Is documentation available within the Ministry to substantiate this appointment?
- (25) Was the Executive Director, Offender Management, responsible for this selection?

- (26) Was the former Director of prison operations involved in the selection of the current Superintendent of the special operations unit?
- (27) Was the stipulated period in the advertisement for the opportunity to act as Superintendent, special operations unit, six months?
- (28) What steps are being taken to rectify the morale problems existing in the special operations unit caused by the restructure?
- (29) Is the Ministry of Justice still capable of upholding its obligations regarding the joint operational procedures document in relation to police and Ministry of Justice joint operations in emergency situations?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply -

- (1) No.
- (2) The Review was not predicated on savings, but rather on the devolvement of those specialist skills to the local level.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) When implementation of the Review is complete, the Emergency Support Group will offer a more focused training and support service.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) To meet prison management needs into and beyond the year 2000 and to provide for local control of emergency processes.
- (7) No.
- (8) See (4).
- (9) No.
- (10) Yes, it is planned for the Unit to relocate back to the Canning Vale site.
- (11) To facilitate a proposal (which was subsequently rejected) to develop a minimum security facility at Canning Vale.
- (12) The decision not to proceed with a minimum security prison at Canning Vale was made by the then Minister Assisting the Minister for Justice.
- (13) The move of the S.O.U. to its current location at Casuarina cost approximately \$25,000.
- (14) The substantive position is currently vacant.
- (15) No.
- (16) Since July 1995.
- (17) The Acting Superintendent's substantive position is that of Senior Officer.
- (18) Yes.
- (19) Not applicable.
- (20) The current Acting Superintendent was appointed by the then Director, Special Operations.
- (21) Yes.
- (22) Yes.
- (23) Mr Mike Ryan, Mr Terry Keating and Ms Lorraine Kelly.
- (24) Yes.
- (25) The Panel referred to in (23).
- (26) No.

- (27) Yes.
- (28) If there are any morale problems, they are not caused by the restructure per se, but by the protracted time it has taken to implement.
- (29) Yes, although they are under review with the aim of further improvement and integration with proposed state emergency management legislation.

PRISONS - CANNING VALE

Increased Population - Infrastructure

2175. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Can the Minister advise if the infrastructure within Canning Vale Prison is adequate for the increased prison population i.e., how many prisoners are unable to work as a result of there being no jobs?
- (2) What pressure has this brought to bear on reception facilities?
- (3) What pressure has this brought to bear on catering facilities?
- (4) What pressure has this brought to bear on recreational facilities?
- (5) What pressure has this brought to bear on educational facilities?
- (6) What pressure has this brought to bear on visiting facilities?
- (7) What pressure has this brought to bear on medical facilities?
- (8) What pressure has this brought to bear on security facilities?
- (9) What pressure has this brought to bear on staff facilities?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) 15-20.
- (2)-(4) Moderate and sustained.
- (5)-(7) Considerable and sustained.
- (8) Moderate and sustained.
- (9) Minimal.

PRISONS - OFFICERS

Training - Emergency Training Courses

2177. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) How many days training per officer is the minimum required level?
- (2) Does the Ministry meet this obligation?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) Does the level of emergency training provided to officers attain the minimum required?
- (5) How many emergency training courses have been conducted in prisons over the last twelve months?
- (6) How many officers participated in these courses?
- (7) Have any refresher courses been conducted over the last twelve months?
- (8) How many officers participated in these courses?
- (9) What was the cost of these courses?
- (10) Have any monies been allocated in the current budget for further emergency training courses?

- (11) Who is responsible for authorizing training courses to be held?
- (12) Who controls the budget for training courses?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) There is no minimum number of training days set as training is based on identified high priority needs and is not linked to a prescribed number of days.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) This information is not readily available.
- (6) 853 officers.
- (7) Yes.
- (8) 137 officers.
- (9) \$8800.
- (10) Yes.
- (11) Training in Emergency Management is authorised by prison superintendents and/or Superintendent, Emergency Support Group.
- (12) The budget for training is held within Offender Management Division. Superintendents are able to authorise training expenditure from their prison budgets and the Manager Operational Training.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE - OFFICERS

Suspended - Nomination of Prison

2178. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Can the Minister advise why, prior to their trial, the suspended officers facing charges over the Chapman incident were asked by a consultant contracted to the Ministry of Justice, to nominate the prison in which they wished to serve their sentence?
- (2) Why was this action taken?
- (3) Who was the Ministry of Justice officer responsible for briefing the consultant?
- (4) Would the Minister provide a copy of the briefing notes?
- (5) Who was responsible for authorizing cell preparation in anticipation of the officers being sentenced to a term of imprisonment?
- (6) Is it standard practice for cells to be prepared in anticipation of conviction?
- (7) If not, why was this new precedent evolved?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) As part of a proper Risk Management Strategy the suspended officers were asked questions about a range of possible scenarios, including the possibility of imprisonment.
- (2) As part of a Risk Management Strategy.
- (3) Executive Director, Offender Management Division.
- (4) Briefing Notes are attached to this advice. [See paper No 760.]
- (5) Executive Director, Offender Management Division.
- (6) Yes, for high risk prisoners.

- (7) Not applicable.

PRISONS - CANNING VALE AND CASUARINA

Section 9 Inquiries - Reports

2179. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) Is the Government reluctant to provide reports under the Freedom of Information Act 1992 into the Section 9 inquiries into certain matters at the Canning Vale and Casuarina Prisons?
- (2) If not, will the Minister table the reports?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) Is the denial of access to such reports, that received widespread public and media attention, which resulted in a number of officers being criminally charged, improper?
- (5) If not, why not?
- (6) Were all of the officers who were charged and suspended under the Public Sector Management Act 1994 in relation to the Chapman incident charged and suspended strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Public Sector Management Act 1994?
- (7) If not, why not?
- (8) Were any of the officers involved charged with a criminal offence at the same time as being charged under the Public Sector Management Act 1994 with exactly the same offence?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply -

- (1)-(2) No.
- (3) The Director of Public Prosecutions tabled a composite report on all of the Inquiries and Investigations concerning Canning Vale and Casuarina Prisons (amongst other things) on 7 December 1995.
- (4) Only the criminal charges in relation to the Chapman incident received widespread public and media attention.
- (5) See (3).
- (6) Yes.
- (7) Not applicable.
- (8) No.

HEALTH - DEPARTMENT

Computers - HCare Financials

2181. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Is the HCare financial computer system used in the Perth Metropolitan area?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If so, where is it used?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) The HCare suite of systems, of which the financial system is part, was developed specifically for rural locations. Another set of information systems, including financial and clinical costing systems, have been developed and are being implemented for the generally larger and more complex metropolitan hospitals and health services.
- (3) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2188. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Labour Relations; Planning; Heritage:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
 - (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr KIERATH replied:

Department of Productivity and Labour Relations

- (1)
 - (a)-(g) None.
 - (h) One Regional Industrial Inspector.
 - (i)-(m) None.
- (2) Level 4.
- (3) The Department of Productivity and Labour Relations provides public awareness and employment entitlement protection services in the Pilbara, under the Fair Workplaces Program.

Commissioner of Workplace Agreements

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

WorkSafe Western Australia

- (1)
 - (a)-(g) None.
 - (h) One Inspector and one Administrative Support Officer.
 - (i)-(m) None.
- (2) Inspector - Level 5.
Administrative Support Officer - Level 1
- (3) The department's Regulatory Services Program.

WorkCover WA

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

Department of the Registrar, Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission

- (1)
 - (a)-(g) None.
 - (h) One Deputy Registrar and one officer.
 - (i)-(m) None.
- (2) Deputy Registrar - level 6.
Officer - Level 1.
- (3) None.

Ministry for Planning

- (1) (a)-(g) None.
 (h) Senior Project Officer.
 (i)-(m) None.
- (2) Level 5.
- (3) In Port Hedland and South Hedland - \$10,000 for Port Hedland Area Planning Study.
 In Karratha and Dampier - \$10,000 for Karratha Area Development Strategy as part of Strategic Industrial Land Use Planning in the Regions.
 In Roebourne and Wickham - \$32,000 for Structure Planning in Roebourne and Wickham as part of Pilbara Structure Planning.

Heritage Council of Western Australia

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

Office of the Minister for Planning (Appeals Office)

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

East Perth Redevelopment Authority

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

Subiaco Redevelopment Authority

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2189. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Lands, Fair Trading, Parliamentary and Electoral Affairs:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
- (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr SHAVE replied:

- (1) (a) Port Hedland; none
 (b) South Hedland; none
 (c) Tom Price; none
 (d) Paraburdoo; none
 (e) Telfer; none
 (f) Marble Bar; none
 (g) Nullagine; none

- (h) Karratha; one Senior Regional Fair Trading Officer and one Fair Trading Officer.
 - (i) Halls Creek; none
 - (j) Wiluna; none
 - (k) Dampier; none
 - (l) Roebourne; none
 - (m) Wickham. none
- (2) Senior Regional Fair Trading Officer; Level 4.
Fair Trading Officer; Level 2.
- (3) State wide programs such as the Fair Trading and Crown Land Allocation programs conducted by the relevant agencies would apply.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2193. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
- (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr COURT replied:

The Minister for Finance has provided the following response -

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2194. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Works; Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs; Youth:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
- (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr BOARD replied:

DEPARTMENT OF CONTRACT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

- (1) The Department of Contract and Management Services has:
 - one Building Consultant and one Clerical Officer in South Hedland, and
 - one Regional Manager, one Building Consultant and one Clerical Officer in Karratha.
- (2) The classifications of staff in CAMS' South Hedland and Karratha offices are:
 - South Hedland
 - Building Consultant, L4
 - Clerical Officer, L2
 - Karratha
 - Regional Manager, L7
 - Building Consultant, L4
 - Clerical Officer, L2
- (3) CAMS does not fund programs in the towns listed in (1) above. However, CAMS regional offices currently manage nearly \$6 million of building related work annually for other agencies, e.g. Education and Police.

OFFICE OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

STATE SUPPLY COMMISSION

- (1) None.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2195. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
 - (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr COWAN replied:

The Minister for Racing and Gaming has provided the following response -

- (1) None.

(2)-(3) Not applicable

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2196. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
 - (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1)
 - (a)-(e) Nil.
 - (f) 5 people in Marble Bar (Mineral Titles Division).
 - (g) Nil.
 - (h) 9.5 people in Karratha (Mining Operations Division).
 - (i)-(m) Nil.
- (2)

Marble Bar:	1 x L5
	2 x L1
	2 x wages
Karratha:	1 x L8
	2 x L7
	4 x L5
	1 x L4
	1 x L2
	0.5 x L1
- (3) Marble Bar and Karratha: Program 1 - Industry & Resources Management Program

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2198. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
 - (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?

- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Minister for the Arts has provided the following response:

- (1) The Ministry for Culture & the Arts does not have any staff located in the towns listed.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3)
- | | | |
|---------------------------|--|----------|
| ArtsWA. | | |
| Port Hedland | \$27,644 | |
| Town of Port Hedland | Support for a regional cultural plan | \$15,000 |
| Town of Port Hedland | Urban art project | \$2,844 |
| Matt Dann Cultural Centre | Performance of <i>Idols</i> and workshops conducted by Coco Youth Theatre | \$4,800 |
| Town of Port Hedland | Youth project to create a multi-arts project piece | \$5,000 |
| South Hedland | \$4,568 | |
| Pilbara Music Festival | Pilbara music festival | \$1,800 |
| Mr A Chalarimeri | Airfare to give presentation at the National Oral History Conference | \$768 |
| Blood Wood Tree Assoc. | Nindji Nindji Festival | \$2,000 |
| Roebourne | \$950 | |
| Ms Michelle Broun | Airfare to attend DARE Community Cultural Development Conference, Brisbane | \$950 |
| Karratha | \$1,408 | |
| Ms Sue Cotton | Attendance at 8th Annual Ceramic Conference | \$1,408 |

Library & Information Service of WA

LISWA funds the Regional Library Service and the provision of books to all regions.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2201. Mr GRAHAM to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
- Port Hedland;
 - South Hedland;
 - Tom Price;
 - Paraburdoo;
 - Telfer;
 - Marble Bar;
 - Nullagine;
 - Karratha;
 - Halls Creek;
 - Wiluna;
 - Dampier;
 - Roebourne;
 - Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Minister for Tourism has provided the following reply:

- (1)-(3) The Western Australian Tourism Commission does not have any staff located in the towns listed.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2202. Mr GRAHAM to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
- (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;
 - (c) Tom Price;
 - (d) Paraburdoo;
 - (e) Telfer;
 - (f) Marble Bar;
 - (g) Nullagine;
 - (h) Karratha;
 - (i) Halls Creek;
 - (j) Wiluna;
 - (k) Dampier;
 - (l) Roebourne;
 - (m) Wickham?
- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) (a) 1 Managing Registrar, 1 Senior Court Officer, 2 Court Officers, 1 Senior Community Corrections Officer, 1 Aboriginal Community Corrections Officer, 1 Community Corrections Officer, 1 Senior Juvenile Justice Officer, 1 Juvenile Justice Officer, 1 Clerical Officer
- (b)-(g) Nil.
- (h) 1 Managing Registrar, 2 Court Officers, 1 Senior Juvenile Justice Officer, 0.5 Clerical Officer
- (i) 1 Community Corrections Officer
- (j)-(k) Nil.
- (l) 1 Managing Registrar, 1 Aboriginal Fines Liaison Officer, 1 Court Officer, 1 Manager, 1 Senior Community Corrections Officer, 1 Community Corrections Officer, 1 Community Corrections Officer Programs, 1 Juvenile Justice Officer, 1 Clerical Officer, 1 Superintendent, 1 Assistant Superintendent - Prisoner Management, 1 Assistant Superintendent - Operational Support, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 Clerk/Typist, 12 Senior Officers, 9 1st Class Prison Officers, 10 Industrial Officers, 39 Shift (Prison) Officers, 1 Nurse Manager, 2 part-time Clinical Nurses, 1 Prisoner Support Officer, 1 Education Coordinator
- (m) Nil.
- (2) (a) 3 level 5, 2 level 2/4, 1 level 3, 1 level 2, 3 level 1
- (h) 2 level 5, 1 level 2, 2.5 level 1
- (i) 1 level 4
- (l) 1 level 8, 1 level 7, 1 level 6, 4 level 5, 2 level 4, 1 level 2/4, 1 level 2/3, 2 level 2, 3 level 1, 12 Senior Officers, 9 First Class Prison Officers, 10 Industrial Officers, 39 Shift Officers, 1 Nurse Manager, 2 Clinical Nurses.
- (3) Youth Involvement Council - Port Hedland (\$57,695)
Hall's Creek Youth Service (\$47,200)

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - NORTH-WEST

Employees and Programs

2203. Mr GRAHAM to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

- (1) What departmental staff in departments under the Minister's control are located in the following towns -
- (a) Port Hedland;
 - (b) South Hedland;

- (c) Tom Price;
- (d) Paraburdoo;
- (e) Telfer;
- (f) Marble Bar;
- (g) Nullagine;
- (h) Karratha;
- (i) Halls Creek;
- (j) Wiluna;
- (k) Dampier;
- (l) Roebourne;
- (m) Wickham?

- (2) What are the classifications of those staff?
- (3) What programs are currently being funded in the towns listed in (1) above, in the departments under the Minister's control?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

- (1) (a)-(g) Nil.
- (h) One and a half FTE's.
- (i)-(m) Nil.
- (2) One at Level 5 and the half FTE is a Level 1.
- (3) Sports Lottery Fund: Country Package supporting such activities as courses for coaching, officiating, administration and sports injury prevention; travel for athletes, officials and coaches; the hosting of regional events and scholarships for athletes. Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund for a number of facilities development, eg James Hardie Centre, lights at Cooke Point Oval, lights in Karratha etc.

Healthway QUIT Scholarship for country people to support their involvement in elite sport development.

Through the staff a range of advisory services are provided, and access to support through the Aloca Coach-in-Residence Program, Ansett Country Sport Development Sponsorship etc.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2205. Mr GRAHAM to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade; Regional Development; Small Business:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Deputy Premier's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1) The Pilbara Development Commission has offices in Port Hedland and Karratha.
- (2) This has been the case since the inception of the Pilbara Development Commission in August 1992. The Commission also operated a regional office in Newman, staffed by one officer from March 1994 to November 1995.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) There is the Chief Executive Officer and three staff in the Port Hedland office, and six staff plus an Aboriginal Economic Development Officer, (externally funded) in the Karratha office.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2210. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Labour Relations; Planning; Heritage:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?

- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr KIERATH replied:

Department of Productivity and Labour Relations (DOPLAR)

- (1) Karratha.
- (2) A DOPLAR Officer was seconded to Karratha on 24 July 1995. The service was previously provided by a Ministry of Fair Trading officer.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Three. A DOPLAR Regional Inspector and two Ministry of Fair Trading Officers (one of these provides a support service only).

Commissioner of Workplace Agreements

- (1)-(4) Not applicable.

WorkSafe Western Australia

- (1) Karratha.
- (2) Since 1979.
- (3) Port Hedland.
- (4) Two.

WorkCover WA

- (1)-(4) Not applicable.

Department of the Registrar, Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission

- (1) Karratha.
- (2) 18 years.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Two.

Ministry for Planning

- (1) Karratha.
- (2) Since August 1996.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) One.

Heritage Council of Western Australia

- (1)-(4) Not applicable.

Office of the Minister for Planning (Appeals Office)

- (1)-(4) Not applicable.

East Perth Redevelopment Authority

- (1)-(4) Not applicable.

Subiaco Redevelopment Authority

- (1)-(4) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2211. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Lands; Fair Trading; Parliamentary and Electoral Affairs:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr SHAVE replied:

- (1) There is one Pilbara Regional Office (the Ministry of Fair Trading) which is located in Karratha.
- (2) Since 1987.
- (3) Port Hedland.
- (4) Two.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2215. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr COURT replied:

The Minister for Finance has provided the following response -

- (1)-(4) Not applicable to the departments under the control of the Minister for Finance.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2216. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister for Works; Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs; Youth:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr BOARD replied:

DEPARTMENT OF CONTRACT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

- (1) The Department of Contract and Management Services (CAMS) has two offices in the region. The main office (regional office) is located in Karratha, and the other (district office) is in South Hedland.
- (2) The Karratha office was established in 1980 and became the regional office of the Building Management Authority (the CAMS' predecessor) in January 1990. The South Hedland Office is understood to go back to about the mid-1960s when the Public Works Department Architectural Division was formed.
- (3) Before January 1990, the regional management function was carried out from the Perth office.

(4) Three people.

OFFICE OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

(1) Nil.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

(1) Nil.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

STATE SUPPLY COMMISSION

(1) Nil.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2217. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr COWAN replied:

The Minister for Racing and Gaming has provided the following response -

(1)-(4) Not applicable to the departments under the control of the Minister for Racing and Gaming.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2218. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr BARNETT replied:

Two Divisions of the Department of Minerals and Energy have regional officers in the Pilbara Region:

(a) Mineral Titles Division

- (1) Marble Bar
- (2) Over 100 years
- (3) Not applicable
- (4) Three full time staff and two part time staff

(b) Mining Operations Division

- (1) Karratha
- (2) 17 years
- (3) Port Hedland
- (4) 9.5 people

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2220. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Minister for the Arts has provided the following response:

- (1) The Ministry for Culture & the Arts does not have a Pilbara Regional Office.
- (2)-(4) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2222. Mr GRAHAM to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Attorney General's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following response:

Crown Solicitor

- (1)-(4) Nil response.

Director of Public Prosecutions for WA

- (1)-(4) The DPP does not have any regional offices.

Equal Opportunity Commission

- (1)-(4) The Equal Opportunity Commissioner does not have regional offices.

Office of the Information Commissioner

- (1)-(4) Nil response.

Legal Aid

- (1) Port Hedland. There are contact "centres" in the following towns: Karratha, Newman, Tom Price - established 1986. All visited by lawyers regularly. Also the following towns are regularly contacted by the Office Supervisor: Pannawonica, Wiluna, Cue, Exmouth, Marble Bar, Meekatharra, Mt Magnet, Nullagine, Onslow, Paraburdoo. Telephone advice is provided anywhere in the Pilbara.
- (2) Since May 1996.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) 5 staff employed: Solicitor in Charge, Staff Solicitor, Supervisor, Level 1 Clerk (half time), Level 1 Clerk (half time). There is a sixth position - a staff solicitor position - which is vacant.

Law Reform Commission

- (1) The Law Reform Commission only has one office, in London House, 216 St George's Terrace, Perth. There is no regional office in the Pilbara or anywhere else.

(2)-(4) Not applicable.

Solicitor General

(1)-(4) Not applicable.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2223. Mr GRAHAM to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

- (1)-(4) The Western Australian Tourism Commission does not have an office in the Pilbara.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2224. Mr GRAHAM to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply:

- (1) Roebourne (Community Based Services).
- (2) Two years.
- (3) Port Hedland.
- (4) Six.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - PILBARA REGIONAL OFFICE

Location and Staff

2225. Mr GRAHAM to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

- (1) In which town is the Pilbara Regional Office of each department under the Minister's control?
- (2) How long has the regional office been in that town?
- (3) Where was the previous location of the regional office?
- (4) How many people are employed in the regional office?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

- (1) Karratha.
- (2) July 1982.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Two (one full-time/one part-time).

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING - DEPARTMENT OF TRAINING

Video and Audio Tapes and Schedules - Tabling

2227. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Employment and Training:

- (1) Will the Minister table video and audio tape copies of all television and radio advertisements run so far during 1997 by the Western Australian Department of Training along with the schedules for the placement of those advertisements with commercial television and radio stations in Western Australia?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) What was the total cost of the development of these particular advertisements?
- (4) What was the cost for the broadcasting of these advertisements?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (1) | Attached are TV tape copies for | A: Full-time TAFE TV Commercial |
| | | B: Part-time TAFE TV Commercial |
| | Radio audio tapes for | C: Part-time TAFE radio |
| | | D: Hands on Trainer radio |

See tabled paper for placement schedules for the four campaigns. [See paper No 761.]

- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) A: \$56,027 (last financial year) revisions for 1997: \$658
B: \$15,000
C: \$1,666.50
D: \$3,117.10
- (4) A: \$87,894
B: \$32,431
C: \$26,595
D: \$15,975

DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY AND LABOUR RELATIONS - INSPECTORS

Random Inspections - Directive

2229. Mr KOBELKE Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Has any form of advice, instruction or directive been issued to the inspectors of the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations in relation to the undertaking of random inspections?
- (2) If so, what was the date of such advice, instruction or directive?
- (3) Will the Minister table a copy of such advice, instruction or directive?
- (4) Is such an advice, instruction or directive still operative?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1) No, I have not issued any form of advice, instruction or directive to inspectors in relation to random inspections.
- (2)-(4) Not applicable.

DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY AND LABOUR RELATIONS - COMPLAINTS

Resolution - Deeds of Settlement

2230. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) In the 1996-97 financial year, how many of the 623 complaints received by the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations were resolved without resorting to legal proceedings?
- (2) How many of these complaints were resolved by "deeds of settlement"?
- (3) In how many of these cases which were resolved by "deeds of settlement" was there evidence of a breach of an award?

- (4) Of the 212 complaints which were resolved by categorization as "no valid complaint" in how many cases did the complaint relate to an alleged breach of an award?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1) I refer the member to the answer to question on notice 2028(b).
 (2) Unknown. 117 complaints were resolved by private settlement between the parties. The Department is not aware if deeds of settlement were entered into.
 (3) Not applicable.
 (4) 201.

DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY AND LABOUR RELATIONS - COMPLAINTS

Number - Outcome

2231. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

In the 1995-96 financial year with respect to the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations -

- (a) how many formal industrial and legislative complaints were lodged;
- (b) how many of these were resolved without resorting to legal proceedings;
- (c) how many investigations were undertaken;
- (d) how many prosecutions were commenced;
- (e) how many prosecutions were concluded;
- (f) what number of the concluded prosecutions were "successful";
- (g) what number of investigations were categorized as "no valid complaint";
- (h) in how many of the cases which were resolved as "no valid complaint" did the complaint relate to an alleged breach of an award;
- (i) how many investigations were concluded by way of "deeds of settlement";
- (j) in how many of the cases which were resolved by "deeds of settlement" was there evidence of a breach of an award?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (a) 661.
- (b) 97%.
- (c) 628 complaints were investigated and successfully resolved.
- (d) 6.
- (e) 6.
- (f) 6.
- (g) 103.
- (h) 93.
- (i) Unknown. 27 were resolved by private settlement between the parties. The Department is not aware if deeds of settlement were entered into.
- (j) Not applicable.

DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY AND LABOUR RELATIONS - COMPLAINTS

Number - Outcome

2232. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

In the 1994-95 financial year with respect to the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations -

- (a) how many formal industrial and legislative complaints were lodged;
- (b) how many of these were resolved without resorting to legal proceedings;
- (c) how many investigations were undertaken;
- (d) how many prosecutions were commenced;
- (e) how many prosecutions were concluded;
- (f) what number of the concluded prosecutions were "successful";
- (g) what number of investigations were categorized as "no valid complaint";
- (h) in how many of the cases which were resolved as "no valid complaint" did the complaint relate to an alleged breach of an award;
- (i) how many investigations were concluded by way of "deeds of settlement";
- (j) in how many of the cases which were resolved by "deeds of settlement" was there evidence of a breach of an award?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (a) 850.
- (b) 99.5%.
- (c) 769 complaints were investigated and successfully resolved.
- (d) 5.
- (e) 4.
- (f) 2.
- (g) 188.
- (h) 172.
- (i) Unknown. 50 were resolved by private settlement between the parties. The Department is not aware if deeds of settlement were entered into.
- (j) Not applicable.

DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY AND LABOUR RELATIONS - COMPLAINTS

Number - Outcome

2233. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

In the 1993-94 financial year with respect to the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations -

- (a) how many formal industrial and legislative complaints were lodged;
- (b) how many of these were resolved without resorting to legal proceedings;
- (c) how many investigations were undertaken;
- (d) how many prosecutions were commenced;
- (e) how many prosecutions were concluded;
- (f) what number of the concluded prosecutions were "successful";
- (g) what number of investigations were categorized as "no valid complaint";
- (h) in how many of the cases which were resolved as "no valid complaint" did the complaint relate to an alleged breach of an award;
- (i) how many investigations were concluded by way of "deeds of settlement";
- (j) in how many of the cases which were resolved by "deeds of settlement" was there evidence of a breach of an award?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (a) 886.
- (b) 94.5%.
- (c) 837 complaints were investigated and successfully resolved.
- (d) 12.
- (e) 12.
- (f) 12.
- (g) 103.
- (h) 103.
- (i) Unknown. 42 were resolved by private settlement between the parties. The Department is not aware if deeds of settlement were entered into.
- (j) Not applicable.

WORKSAFE WESTERN AUSTRALIA - BLUE DUCK CAFE, COTTESLOE

Orders - Date and Nature

2234. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Did WorkSafe WA issue any orders in relation to building work taking place on the Blue Duck Cafe in Cottesloe?
- (2) If so, what was the date or dates of such orders and the exact nature of any such orders?
- (3) Did any work take place in contravention of any such prohibition notice or stop work order?
- (4) If so, what was the nature and extent of the contravention of such orders?
- (5) What action, if any, has been taken against those responsible for contravention of the WorkSafe orders?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Six improvement notices and two prohibition notices were issued between 11 July 1997 and 14 August 1997 for the following matters:
 - testing and tagging of electrical leads;
 - provision on site of workplan and demolition standard;
 - security of gas cylinders;
 - provision of flash arrestors
 - asbestos cement removal; and
 - provision of fall arrest equipment and prevention of falls.
- (3) No.
- (4)-(5) Not applicable.

ROADS - NORTHERN CITY BYPASS

Contracts - Demolition

2236. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Will all work required for the completion of the City Northern By-pass project be accomplished through contracts which have already been let with only two additional new contracts of work remaining to be let?
- (2) If yes, then are these two as yet to be let contracts for the demolition of various properties in Claisebrook including part of the Readymix site and secondly for the demolition of Blocks E and G?
- (3) If this is not the case and further contracts will be required for the completion of the total project, then what are the other works for which contracts have yet to be let?

Mr OMODEI replied:

The Minister for Transport has provided the following responses:

- (1)-(2) As indicated in response to Question on Notice 1809, only two major contracts remained in respect of the City Northern Bypass. One of these has since been awarded. The other for Blocks E and G is being progressed.
- (3) The nature of the project may require some further specific tasks or work to be undertaken by contract. These would be called in the normal way.

MR MARK SMITH - EMPLOYMENT BY MINISTER FOR LABOUR RELATIONS

2237. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Is Mr Mark Smith engaged to work in any capacity for the Minister for Labour Relations?
- (2) If so, then what is the basis of Mr Mark Smith's employment contract?
- (3) When did Mr Smith commence working for the Minister?
- (4) What is the duration of his employment contract?
- (5) If Mr Smith's remuneration is on an hourly basis, then what is the hourly rate of pay he receives?
- (6) What is the full cost of employing Mr Smith on an annual basis?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1)-(5) Mr Smith is engaged through his organisation on a contract for service for the period 25 August 1997 to 7 November 1997 and will be paid up to a maximum consultancy fee of \$9605.20. The hourly rate applicable to the contract is \$43.66.
- (6) Not applicable.

MINING - GARDEN ISLAND

Precious Metals Australia Ltd - Exploration Licence Application

2239. Mr McGOWAN to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What is the status of Precious Metals Australia Ltd's application for a mining exploration licence over Garden Island?
- (2) Does Precious Metals Australia Ltd currently have any applications of any nature formal or informal whatsoever with the Department of Minerals and Energy in relations to Garden Island?
- (3) Has Precious Metals Australia Ltd withdrawn its earlier applications in relation to Garden Island?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) Application for Exploration Licence 70/1301 was refused on 23 June 1997.
- (2) No.
- (3) See answer (1).

FINES, PENALTIES AND INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ENFORCEMENT ACT - UNPAID FINES

Number

2240. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) In relation to the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 and its operation I ask, what is the current number of unpaid penalties, fines and infringement notices registered with the registry?
- (2) How many infringement notices are registered as unpaid for -
 - (a) police;
 - (b) all Shires;
 - (c) Department of Fisheries;

- (d) Department of Transport;
- (e) others?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply:

- (1) Infringement Notices: 101,374
Court Fines: 137,843
- (2) (a) 58,647
(b) 40,625
(c) 35
(d) 117
(e) 1,950

FINES, PENALTIES AND INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ENFORCEMENT ACT - DRIVERS' LICENCES AND VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

Cancellation

2241. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

In relation to the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 and its operation I ask, how many Western Australians have -

- (a) had their vehicle registration cancelled;
- (b) had their drivers licence cancelled;
- (c) been prohibited from gaining a drivers licence?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply:

The following numbers of Western Australians have been subject to licence suspension as a result of the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994:

- (a) 12,894 (Suspensions)
- (b) 68,055 (Suspensions)

(In relation to (a) and (b) it should be noted that the Fines Enforcement Registry does not cancel motor drivers licences, cancellation is imposed by the police under the Road Traffic Act 1974).

- (c) 10,305

FINES, PENALTIES AND INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ENFORCEMENT ACT - COMPUTERISED REGISTRY

Compliance with Time Frames

2242. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) In relation to the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 and its operation I ask, when the system was set up in the registry were all the time frames set out in the Act complied with?
- (2) If not how many Western Australians received notices that did not conform with the requirements of the Act?
- (3) How many people that are now under suspension received notices with the incorrect time periods?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply:

- (1) Technically no. The original computer system allowed for 28 days plus one day for the electronic confirmation of offender details. This proved to be insufficient on those occasions when the confirmation of offender details occurred over a weekend or public holiday period. The computer program was subsequently amended to take this into account.

(2)-(3) Unknown.

FINES, PENALTIES AND INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ENFORCEMENT ACT - UNPAID FINES

Total Amount Owing

2243. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) In relation to the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 and its operation I ask, what is the total amount of money owing of fines, penalties and infringement notices registered with the registry?
- (2) What was the total amount of money owing on warrants held by police at stations and in the gazetted section of the Police Service under the old system the month prior to the introduction of the above Act?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply:

- (1) Moneys outstanding as at 18 September 1997:

Infringements:	\$12.2m
Court Fines:	\$42.1m
- (2) This question is best directed to the Minister for Police.

FINES, PENALTIES AND INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ENFORCEMENT ACT - UNPAID FINES

Comparison

2244. Mr RIEBELING to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

In relation to the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994 and its operation I ask, in the last financial year, did the level of unpaid fines differ from that prior to the introduction of the above procedure in relation to -

- (a) the number of fines unpaid one month after the imposition of the fine;
- (b) the number of fines unpaid six months after the imposition of the fine;
- (c) the number of fines unpaid 12 months after the imposition of the fine?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply:

Unknown - statistics in the detail required to answer the question are not available for 1996/97. A review of the fines enforcement system conducted by the Ministry of Justice in conjunction with the Australian Bureau of Statistics in August 1996, revealed that the payment rate of Court fines, without the need for enforcement, had improved by 35% since the introduction of the *Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994*.

HERITAGE - PLACES AND OBJECTS

Identification, Assessment and Conservation Program

2248. Ms McHALE to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

- (1) What are the policies, programs or procedures associated with cultural and natural heritage places and objects under the Minister's control?
- (2) What financial commitments have been made by the Department of Minerals and Energy to identify, assess and conserve heritage places and objects?
- (3) If no such policy, program or procedures exist, when can they be expected?

Mr BARNETT replied:

- (1) Places and objects of European-Australian cultural and natural heritage interest are dealt with under the policy provisions of the Federal Government's Australian Heritage Commission Act (1975) and the Western Australian Government's Heritage of WA Act (1990). The Department of Minerals and Energy produces maps and maintains a database of all natural places proposed for the Interim List and National Heritage

Register maintained by the Australian Heritage Commission (AHC). The Department provides technical advice to the AHC about nominated places as well as the names and addresses of mining and petroleum companies with tenements and resource interests in the areas involved in the Interim Listing or Registration. The Department commonly deals directly with the AHC and, on occasions, with the Ministry for Planning. The Department is advised by the Ministry for Planning or by the AHC itself about the outcome of the AHC process.

The Heritage Council of WA uses the *WA Government Gazette* to notify State agencies about buildings and places of historical value which it intends putting onto its National Trust Register. The Department charts the location of these areas onto its public maps and into its databases. The outcome of these procedures is that the Department can advise Industry and Government about the location and details of places of concern to the AHC, Heritage Council and National Trust.

- (2) The activities of the Department of Minerals and Energy relating to the policies, programs and procedures referred to in question (1) are undertaken as part of various other Departmental functions and are not separately costed.
- (3) Not applicable.

HEALTH - ORGAN DONATIONS

Pilot Scheme

2251. Mr PENDAL to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the huge success of the South Australian organ donation pilot scheme under which the organ donation rate in South Australia/Northern Territory has jumped from 17 donors per million population in 1996 to 22.8 donors per million in the 12 months since the pilot scheme got under way?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the new rate is double the national rate in Australia of 10.7 donors per million when last tested in 1996?
- (3) Is it also correct that Australia's organ donation rate is less than half that of the rate in Spain (26.8) and the United States (21.2) and substantially less than the United Kingdom rate of 14.4 per million population?
- (4) What have been the actual numbers of transplants in Western Australia in each of the past five years for -
 - (a) hearts;
 - (b) lungs;
 - (c) corneas;
 - (d) kidneys;
 - (e) bone grafts; and
 - (f) any other category?
- (5) Does the Minister accept the findings reported in the September issue of the Medical Journal of Australia in which it is stated that the two major factors affecting organ donation are -
 - (a) the assiduity with which hospital intensive-care unit staff identify potential donors and request permission for donation; and
 - (b) the willingness of relatives to donate?
- (6) In the light of this can the Minister advise the numbers of patients in Western Australia awaiting donations for -
 - (a) hearts;
 - (b) lungs;
 - (c) corneas;
 - (d) kidneys;
 - (e) bone grafts; and
 - (f) any other category?
- (7) Will the Government commit itself to an immediate implementation of a full-time scheme based on the South Australian model to maximise the opportunities for Western Australians to lead significantly happier and healthier lives as a result of organ donation and transplants?

Mr PRINCE replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes.

- (3) Yes, based on 1996 figures.
- (4) The numbers of transplants performed in Western Australia over the past five years, as supplied by ACCORD, are as follows:

	1993	1994	1995	1996 (first six months)	1997 (first six months)
(a) hearts	-	-	7	4	4
(b) lungs and heart/lungs	(lungs not done in WA)				
(c) corneas	145	125	129	134	30
(d) kidneys	45	44	39	31	14
(e) bone grafts	n/a	n/a	246	247	131
(f) livers	1	11	10	14	12

- (5) Yes.
- (6) The numbers of West Australian patients awaiting transplants as at 30 June 1997, as supplied by ACCORD, are:
- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| (a) hearts | 4 |
| (b) lungs and heart/lungs | 4 |
| (c) corneas | 102 |
| (d) kidneys | 126 |
| (e) bone grafts | n/a |
| (f) livers | 3 |
- (7) The increase in organ donation rates in South Australia following the first year of operation of the South Australian organ donation Agency certainly is very impressive and clearly is a success the Government would like to emulate in Western Australia. To this end, the Health Department, along with key stakeholders in the area of organ and tissue donation and procurement is facilitating the establishment of a steering committee to oversee the future development of an organ donation agency for Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2253. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Health:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr PRINCE replied:

Chiropractors, Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Dental Therapists, Dental Prosthesists, Medical Practitioners, Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Optical dispensers, Optometrists, Podiatrists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, Psychologists.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2254. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Attorney General's portfolio?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply.

The following occupations and professions are licensed or registered by agencies within the Attorney General and Minister for Justice portfolios:-

- (i) Public Notaries - *Public Notaries Act 1979*.
Legal Practitioners - *Legal Practitioners Act 1893*.
Dealers, Dealers Representatives, Investment Advisors and Investment Representatives - *Securities Industry Act 1975*.
- (ii) The Commercial Tribunal licenses travel agents under the provisions of the *Travel Agents Act 1985*. The Tribunal also administers the licensing of credit providers under the provisions of the *Credit (Administration) Act 1984*.
- (iii) Local Courts issue licences under the provisions of the *Debt Collectors Act 1964*.

- (iv) Courts of Petty Sessions issue licences under the provisions of the *Auction Sales Act 1973*.
- (v) Public Auditors are registered under the provisions of the *Friendly Societies Act 1984* and the *Co-operative and Provident Societies Act 1903*.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2255. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Family and Children's Services; Seniors; Women's Interests:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mrs PARKER replied:

Family and Children's Services: Providers of child care services as specified under the Community Services (Child Care) Regulations 1988.

Seniors: None.

Women's Interests: None.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2256. Dr CONSTABLE to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Commerce and Trade; Regional Development; Small Business:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Premier's portfolio?

Mr COWAN replied:

There are no occupations and professions operating in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Deputy Premier's portfolio.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2260. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Labour Relations; Planning; Heritage:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr KIERATH replied:

Department of Productivity and Labour Relations: Nil.

Commissioner of Workplace Agreements: Nil.

WorkSafe Western Australia: Asbestos removalist contractors; WorkSafe Plan assessors; certificates of competency assessors; scaffolders and riggers; crane and hoist operators; and pressure equipment operators.

WorkCover WA: Approved Vocational Rehabilitation Providers and Approved Audiometric Testers.

Department of the Registrar, Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission: People charging fees for providing advice in relation to industrial relations will be required to register as Industrial Agents when Part 5 of the Industrial Relations Legislation Amendment and Repeal Act 79/95 is proclaimed later this year.

Ministry for Planning: Nil.

Heritage Council of Western Australia: Nil.

Office of the Minister for Planning (Appeals Office): Nil.

East Perth Redevelopment Authority: Nil.

Subiaco Redevelopment Authority: Nil.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2261. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Lands:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr SHAVE replied:

The following occupation operates in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Lands portfolio: Land Surveyors.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2262. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Parliamentary and Electoral Affairs:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr SHAVE replied:

There are no occupations and professions operating in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by the Western Australian Electoral Commission.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2264. Dr CONSTABLE to the Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Premier's portfolio?

Mr COURT replied:

Not applicable to any agency within the Premier's portfolio.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2267. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Works; Services; Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs; Youth:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr BOARD replied:

DEPARTMENT OF CONTRACT AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Architects.

STATE SUPPLY COMMISSION

Nil.

OFFICE OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

Nil.

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL INTERESTS

Nil.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2268. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr COWAN replied:

The Minister for Racing and Gaming has provided the following response -

Office of Racing, Gaming and Liquor

Bookmakers
Bookmakers' Employees
Gaming Operators
Gaming Equipment Suppliers
Manufacturers of Gaming Equipment
Casino Employee Licences
Casino Key Employee Licences
Junket Operators
Proprietors of businesses which sell liquor
Approved Managers of businesses licensed under the Liquor Licensing Act
Trainers of Greyhounds

Lotteries Commission

The Lottery Retailers operate under a Licence Agreement with the Lotteries Commission.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2269. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr BARNETT replied:

The following occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by the Department of Minerals and Energy:

- Winder drivers
- First class mine managers
- Underground supervisors
- Quarry managers
- Restricted quarry managers
- Coal mine managers
- Deputies in the coal mining industry
- Authorised surveyors in the mining industry (surveyors authorised under the Mines Safety and Inspection Act)
- Drivers of vehicles transporting dangerous goods
- Shotfirers (authority to use explosives)

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2270. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

The Minister for the Arts has provided the following reply:

The Ministry for Culture and the Arts does not administer any system which registers or licenses occupations and professions in Western Australia.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2272. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr COURT replied:

The Minister for Finance has provided the following response -

Not relevant to the agencies within the portfolio of the Minister for Finance.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2273. Dr CONSTABLE to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Tourism:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr BRADSHAW replied:

The Western Australian Tourism Commission and Rottnest Island Authority do not administer a system of registration or licensing of any occupations or professions.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2274. Dr CONSTABLE to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

The Minister for Justice has provided the following reply.

The following occupations and professions are licenced or registered by agencies within the Hon Attorney General and Minister for Justice portfolios:-

- (i) Public Notaries - *Public Notaries Act 1979*.
Legal Practitioners - *Legal Practitioners Act 1893*.
Dealers, Dealers Representatives, Investment Advisors and Investment Representatives - *Securities Industry Act 1975*.
- (ii) The Commercial Tribunal licenses travel agents under the provisions of the *Travel Agents Act 1985*. The Tribunal also administers the licensing of credit providers under the provisions of the *Credit (Administration) Act 1984*.
- (iii) Local Courts issue licences under the provisions of the *Debt Collectors Act 1964*.
- (iv) Courts of Petty Sessions issue licences under the provisions of the *Auction Sales Act 1973*.
- (v) Public Auditors are registered under the provisions of the *Friendly Societies Act 1984* and the *Co-operative and Provident Societies Act 1903*.

GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS

Registered or Licensed

2275. Dr CONSTABLE to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

Which occupations and professions operate in Western Australia under a system of registration or licensing administered by an agency within the Minister's portfolio?

Mr MARSHALL replied:

BOXING OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSION

The Ministry of Sport and Recreation administers the Western Australian Boxing Commission.

The Boxing Control Act 1987 regulates the registration for the following industry participants:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|--|
| (i) | Section 14 | Boxers |
| (ii) | Section 25 | Industry participants, which covers the following classes: |
| - | Promoters | |
| - | Referees | |
| - | Judges | |
| - | Managers and Manager's Agents | |
| - | Trainers | |
| - | Seconds | |
| - | Timekeepers | |

ABSEILING INSTRUCTION CERTIFICATION

The Ministry of Sport and Recreation convenes an Abseiling Assessment Panel which contracts Edith Cowan University to deliver Abseiling Instructors courses. On completion, successful candidates are awarded the Abseiling Instructor's Certificate. This certification is acknowledged as the industry benchmark. Abseiling instructors are not required to be registered or licensed, however with the increasing focus on risk management, this non-statutory industry certification operates to self regulate the industry. Land management entities generally require instructors to hold Abseiling Instructor's certification as an access prerequisite.

MOTOR VEHICLES - PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS

\$10 000 Threshold Categories - Amount Paid Out

2276. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance:

In each of the last five years -

- (a) how many motor vehicle personal injury claims were made;
- (b) what was the total amount claimed in categories the subject of the 1993 \$10 000 threshold legislation; and
- (c) what was the total amount paid out in those categories?

Mr COURT replied:

The Minister for Finance has provided the following response:

This question is being answered on the assumption that the intended meaning of "categories the subject of the 1993 \$10,000 threshold legislation" refers to the amounts outlined in the Motor Vehicle (Third Party Insurance) Amendment Act 1994. Currently the amounts are:

Up to \$10,000	No damages are paid for non-pecuniary loss
\$10,000 to \$31,500	\$10,000 is deducted from the amount awarded for non-pecuniary loss.
\$31,501 to \$41,500	\$10,000 deduction is phased out on a diminishing scale
\$41,501 to \$209,000	No deduction from the amount awarded for non-pecuniary loss

The threshold legislation applies to claims arising from motor vehicle accidents occurring from 1 July 1993.

- (a)

1996/97	5,810
1995/96	6,709
1994/95	6,867
1993/94	7,235
1992/93	10,254
- (b) No records relating to the separate categories are kept by the Insurance Commission of Western Australia.
- (c) No records relating to the separate categories are kept by the Insurance Commission of Western Australia.

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION - APPLICATIONS

Expediting

2277. Mr PENDAL to the Minister representing the Attorney General:

- (1) Is it correct that a large backlog of criminal injuries compensation applications exists currently?

- (2) Does any provision exist for expediting, ahead of turn, an application from a person, in financial difficulty, who has outstanding medical debts resulting from a 1993 assault, for which he is claiming compensation?
- (3) If yes to (2) above, how should the applicant proceed in having his financial plight recognised and his application expedited?

Mr PRINCE replied:

The Attorney General has provided the following reply:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3) By making a written submission to the Chief Assessor providing details of the financial difficulty being experienced. The matter will then be considered on its own merits.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

STATE FINANCE - BUDGET FORECASTS

Economic Growth - Inaccuracies

680. Dr GALLOP to the Premier:

I refer to the inaccuracies in the 1996-97 budget forecasts of economic growth, which include, for example, a forecasted growth in private consumption of 1.75 per cent compared with actual growth of 1.3 per cent, a forecasted growth in private business investment of 10.75 per cent compared with actual growth of minus 2.1 per cent, and a forecasted growth in gross state product of 5 per cent compared with actual growth of 3.1 per cent.

- (1) How does the Premier explain these differences?
- (2) Does he stand by the growth forecasts contained in the 1997-98 budget papers?
- (3) If no to (2), will he provide an updated statement in this regard to the House?

Mr COURT replied:

I thank the member for his question.

- (1)-(3) Yes, the gross state product figure for last year came in under the budget forecast, although it still came in over the national growth figures. The explanation provided to me by the Treasury Department was that a change took place in the last quarter of the year. I asked the same question as the Leader of the Opposition about the projections for this financial year, and Treasury stands by those figures; in fact, it believes it might be a little higher than projected, and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry has also projected a higher figure. Overall, for the past five years the growth has been averaging around 6 per cent, which has been well above the national average, and we believe that that trend will continue. I cannot comment on the specific investment figures. I asked questions in relation to the gross state product, and I will make inquiries on the investment figures.

ECONOMY - SOUTH EAST ASIAN CURRENCY CRISIS

Effects

681. Dr GALLOP to the Premier:

As a supplementary question, does the Premier have any advice on the effects on the Western Australian economy of the South East Asian currency crisis?

The SPEAKER: Order! I suppose we will allow that question.

Mr COURT replied:

I have received some general information on the effects the currency crisis may have on some industries. Concern is held that it will have a detrimental effect on tourism in the forthcoming year, but on the positive side the Tourism Commission believes our program in Europe is working better than expected. Even though a shortfall in expectations

on South East Asia may occur, the commission believes that the figures coming from the United Kingdom could well compensate for that reduction. We will only know that position in a year's time.

No short term effect has occurred with tourism. One of the few positives to arise from the problems with pollution and smog from the fires in that region is that many people are trying to get out of South East Asia for a period in fresh air. That may have distorted the figures in the short term. However, it is anticipated that the South East Asian figures for the year will be less than previous expectations. Our main trading partners are not the South East Asian economies. Japan is still our biggest customer by far, followed by Korea, and we have growing trade with China. It will not have a great effect on our overall trade figures, but effects on tourism are expected. I am advised that the sale of education services will be affected as it will be more difficult for families in that region to send children to overseas universities. Problems will arise when a currency drops by 30 per cent.

The Deputy Premier has some information on the live cattle trade with Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. I am advised by my two National Party friends, the Deputy Premier and the Minister for Primary Industry, that the wheat industry and the live cattle trade are likely to be affected by the currency problems. In three weeks we will launch a major promotion for primary products in Indonesia; we will continue with those promotions. If the member wants a more detailed briefing as to how we believe it will affect trade, that can be provided by Treasury.

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN - PREMIER

Visit to China - Benefits to Western Australia

682. Mr MASTERS to the Premier:

Will the Premier advise the House what benefits could flow to the people of Western Australia following his recent visit to China?

Mr COURT replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

Mr Thomas: A monologue on your subject of choice.

Mr COURT: It is the member for Cockburn's subject of choice.

Along with Shane Stone, the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, I went to China last week specifically to promote the sale of liquid natural gas into the Chinese energy market. A combined presentation was made to the Chinese authorities. Currently 70 to 75 per cent of China's power is generated using coal. However, there is a limit to how much coal any country can use, and China currently burns 1.4b tonnes. We were keen to have LNG considered as a supplementary fuel because it is currently not in China's energy equation. It is considering supplementing its generation capacity with hydro and nuclear power and we believe we have put forward a good case for LNG to be considered. Every year China must increase its power generation by 10 000 to 15 000 megawatts. That is more than three times what we -

Mr Grill: That is the entire Collie basin output for one year.

Mr COURT: That is right. It is battling to expand that because it physically cannot transport much more coal around the country. As I said, it is looking at hydro and nuclear power. One of the other options is a 5 000 kilometre pipeline from Pakistan and Russia into China, but that is expensive. We have floated the concept of a pipeline in the coastal provinces transporting Australian LNG. Given the current focus on environmental issues and the burning of coal, we are well placed to break into that Chinese market. The promotion work being done by the State might not bear fruit for 10 years but, the way the Chinese system works, we must get into the equation at some stage, and we have made a concerted effort to ensure that LNG is considered as part of that equation.

My visit followed that of the Deputy Premier. We have terrific relationships within that country and we were able to meet senior people in the State Planning Commission and Vice Premier Zhue Ronjui, who recently visited Australia. Given that he is the senior person responsible for economic decisions, we are dealing with the right people. If we are successful it will be possible to expand further the LNG industry.

NATIONAL PARTY - INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Oakajee Industrial Estate

683. Dr GALLOP to the Deputy Premier and Leader of the National Party:

My question relates to National Party policy on industrial development.

- (1) Is the member for Geraldton correct when he says that the National Party has never been in favour of the development at Oakajee?
- (2) Is it National Party policy to commit to Geraldton's southern transport corridor before a final decision is made about Oakajee?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1)-(2) Undoubtedly the Geraldton region is witnessing a very lively debate about the appropriate location of new industries in that area. As the Leader of the Opposition knows, we have three options: Narngulu, Eradu, further inland from Narngulu, and Oakajee. Kingstream Resources initially decided to go ahead at Narngulu, but given the expansion of its plant from 750 000 tonnes per annum of slab steel to about 5 million tonnes per annum of slab steel and some pellets, it has now decided that the Narngulu site would not be appropriate.

As a consequence of that Kingstream Resources decided that Oakajee would be a better option than Eradu. It remains to be seen whether that will be the case. I have no doubt it will progress normally. We certainly will not stand in the way of industrial development in the Geraldton region. As to the southern corridor, there is at least \$0.5b of infrastructure at the Geraldton port, most of which is associated with the bulk shipment of grains and mineral sands. Given the volume of traffic from both those products and others, such as talc and general cargo, of course a better transport corridor into the port is required. Anybody who has visited Geraldton knows that the entire city is cut off from the foreshore by the railway line. It will be quite appropriate for a transport corridor to be properly planned and put in place.

BUNBURY SILOS - DEMOLITION

684. Mr OSBORNE to the Minister for Regional Development:

Will the Minister advise what progress the South West Development Commission has made in fulfilling the Government's 1993 election commitment to demolish the Bunbury silos?

Mr COWAN replied:

I could be somewhat flippant and say that the short answer is very little, but I need to provide the House with some information. As most members will know, the Bunbury silos were interim listed by the Heritage Council in 1994. As a consequence of that decision it was not possible for the South West Development Commission, which does not have the total responsibility for the silos because some rests with Bunbury City Council, to demolish the silos and provide developers with a green field site for the purpose of redevelopment. Since that time the South West Development Commission has advertised for people to indicate whether they had an alternative use for the silos. Two companies indicated an interest, but by May of this year there had been no formal application for an alternative use of the silos. The South West Development Commission is currently identifying the value of the property with the silos intact with a view to selling it and leaving to prospective new owners the responsibility for demolition or the continued use of those silos.

TAXATION - GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

State Based

685. Dr GALLOP to the Treasurer:

I refer to the Treasurer's statement last week that he favoured a state based goods and services tax as a means of reducing Western Australia's financial dependence on Canberra. Will he advise the House of the rate at which he would expect a state based GST to be set, what goods and services, if any, would be exempted from his GST, and what existing taxes, if any, would be abolished or reduced?

Mr COURT replied:

I have not referred to a state based GST. I have said in general terms that I believe the State should have access to a share of a goods and services tax and access to a share of income taxes. I will provide the Leader of the Opposition with a preliminary document relating to where we are currently and why we need to have reform, particularly of the sharing arrangements. I will provide possibly within two weeks more detailed information on the options that we have for taxation reform. I table the information.

[See paper No 764.]

Mr COURT: The Federal Government has set out what it wants to achieve through tax reform and revenue sharing arrangements. The Western Australian Government wants the ability to raise revenue for the programs that it

provides. With the exception of Australia and Switzerland, States in all other federations in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development have access to the two growth sources of revenue - a goods and services tax or an income tax base, although I believe that Swiss cantons have access to an income tax. We cannot have a rational debate if members opposite ask, "What will the GST be?" I will provide the background material that spells out the circumstances in which a GST or a value added tax would raise X amount of dollars; for example, if the Government were to replace payroll tax, financial institutions duty or whatever, what it would require to happen with either an income tax or a goods and services tax.

The Government has been spending a lot of time on this issue. It is not an easy issue. Politically whatever is put forward will be unpalatable because it is hard to sell any tax to the community. We have a responsibility in a once in 100 years' opportunity to achieve genuine reform of the commonwealth-state revenue sharing arrangements. To do that we must bite some hard bullets on issues such as the States' sharing of income tax. Members opposite can say they do not support a goods and services tax.

Mr Ripper: We do not.

Mr COURT: The reality is that we have an incredibly complex sales tax system with different rates over a wide range of products. The only thing we do not have is a tax on services, but we have high levels of taxes on other items. We must have a well informed debate and the Government is only too willing to provide information to all the community to assist in that debate.

NATIVE TITLE - GOLDFIELDS DELEGATION

Explanation of Difficulties of Federal Act

686. Mr SWEETMAN to the Premier:

Is the Premier aware of a goldfields community native title delegation who are travelling to both Perth and Canberra to explain to federal members of Parliament the unworkability of the federal Native Title Act?

Mr COURT replied:

I compliment the member for Eyre for doing something to educate Labor members of Parliament on native title issues. I was staggered to read that the federal Leader of the Opposition and some other opposition representatives had visited Kalgoorlie unaware of the practical problems being created by the native title legislation. The member for Eyre was reported as saying that it had become clear that federal parliamentarians generally were unaware of the real practical problems facing the mining industry and communities in mining areas in relation to the Act and he believed that briefings and discussions with the Aboriginal communities were a real eye opener for Kim Beazley. This is Labor Party legislation. It has been in effect for three years. I am concerned that Labor members are still ignorant of the effect of this legislation. To the credit of the member for Eyre he is doing something so that Labor members have a better understanding of the absurd situation with that legislation. What an indictment of the people who brought in the legislation that they do not know what are the practical problems of that legislation.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - MIDLAND OFFICE

Staff and Resources

687. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the memorandum sent to the director general of her department by staff at the department's Midland office who expressed grave concerns about the administration of Family and Children's Services following the recent death of a child?
- (2) Does the Minister agree with her employees who say they are under-resourced and understaffed to such an extent and that they are "unable to undertake duties in a competent and professional manner"?
- (3) What action has the Minister taken to address this appalling situation, and can she guarantee that clients of her department are not suffering as a result of the crisis?

Mrs PARKER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(3) I am aware of the memorandum. The director general has established an independent inquiry into the matter that has been referred to in the memorandum from those in the Midland office. I have not received the report as yet and it would not be appropriate for me to comment on it until the inquiry is complete. Responses will be made according to the content of that report.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES - MIDLAND OFFICE

Death of Child

688. Ms ANWYL to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

Will the Minister table the report that is under consideration and will she now explain to the Parliament the circumstances surrounding the death of this child under the care of the Midland branch of Family and Children's Services?

Mrs PARKER replied:

As I have said, the investigation is not complete, so I do not have that detail and cannot explain it to the Parliament.

Ms Anwyl: There will be an inquiry and they want to try something else.

Mrs PARKER: The inquiry has been instigated, but it has not been completed and the report has not been given to me.

YOUTH - JOY 98 FESTIVAL

Purpose

689. Mr BAKER to the Minister for Youth:

I have noticed on Channel Nine an advertisement promoting JOY 98, a festival of youth being planned for March next year.

- (1) What is the purpose of holding this festival?
- (2) What is it trying to achieve?
- (3) What real involvement will young people have in the planning and organising of this event?

Mr BOARD replied:

- (1)-(3) I am excited by the fact that there will be an opportunity over four days in March next year to present on the Esplanade what could possibly be the biggest youth expo, which young people have titled JOY 98. I thank Channel Nine, Triple M 96.1 FM and *The West Australian* for their support for this expo. Channel Nine has made those advertisements and is running them to screen free of charge. Triple M is doing the same and *The West Australian* has also agreed to support the event. JOY 98 will be a tremendous opportunity for young people to demonstrate what they are doing and achieving in the community, in both a cultural and social sense. It will also show what is happening in vocational training and education. Further, it is an opportunity for service providers in both the public and private sectors to demonstrate what is happening in the youth arena.

A highlight of the event is a battle of the bands competition, which is being worked up currently throughout the state and independent schools in Western Australia. The finals will be held in conjunction with a rock video competition which is being met with great excitement among the schools in this State. I commend this program to all members. It is an opportunity for young people to demonstrate what they are achieving in Western Australia, as well as for the community to see what is being done for young people around Western Australia. It will provide the opportunity to create a more positive image for young people in Western Australia.

SCHOOLS - DISADVANTAGED SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Abolition

690. Mr RIPPER to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education:

Notice of this question was given at 10 o'clock this morning. I refer to the abolition of the disadvantaged schools program and its supposed replacement by literacy programs now themselves under threat from Federal Minister David Kemp.

- (1) When will schools now receiving the disadvantaged schools grants be told whether they will receive similar grants for 1998?
- (2) What action is the State taking to provide alternative funds to those schools likely to miss out on commonwealth grants as a result of the dispute between the Minister for Education and his federal counterpart?

Mr TUBBY replied:

- (1)-(2) I thank the Deputy Leader of the Opposition for giving extensive notice of this question. Unfortunately, because the Minister is overseas, I am unable to provide an answer and I request that the question be put on notice.

DRUGS - HEROIN

Naltrexone Treatment - Dr George O'Neil's Program

691. Mr BAKER to the Minister for Health:

- (1) Does the State Government propose to provide any assistance to Dr George O'Neil in respect of his abstinence treatment program for heroin addiction using the drug naltrexone?
- (2) If so, what is the nature and extent of the proposed assistance?

Mr PRINCE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question and for the opportunity to state again the Government's position on this treatment.

- (1)-(2) Dr George O'Neil is a gynaecologist in private practice who has taken to treating some of his patients with naltrexone. It is not a substitute for heroin, as is methadone, for example, or buprenorphine, slow release morphine or a number of other drugs that are either available or being trialled around Australia at the moment. Naltrexone prevents heroin having an effect if a person takes it, but it can be used only when the patient has been through a process of detoxification. That is a fairly complex process. Naltrexone is a specific drug that prevents heroin having an effect upon the human system when naltrexone is in the system. It is not an alternative to heroin. Dr George O'Neil has treated a number of patients and the numbers have been growing significantly. He has approached the department and has met with me and the Minister responsible for the drug strategy. He has put forward that his treatment should be converted into a trial. A number of trials of naltrexone have either started or are about to start in Australia, one to my certain knowledge is in Melbourne and another is intended for Sydney. This trial that will be borne out of Dr O'Neil's work will get underway now. There has been a good deal of cooperation with the experts from the Western Australian Alcohol and Drug Authority, who are moving into the Health Department as part of the restructure, in respect of proper monitoring and scientific evaluation so that it can be set up as a proper trial process. Recently the Government agreed to provide funding of \$180 000 through the Health Department to support a formal trial of naltrexone in this State. That funding is available so long as Dr O'Neil's program converts to a proper trial process. The money will fund the trial. Then I hope it will be supported by my ministerial colleagues around Australia and also the commonwealth authorities.

Mr McGinty: How many people will be on the trial?

Mr PRINCE: Possibly about 150, to have a cohort, although that does not need to be the minimum number being treated by Dr O'Neil. That matter is being sorted out at present. The number is well over 130, and rising. People from all over Australia are coming to his clinic. I am hopeful the trial will get approval from all other Ministers around Australia and from the Commonwealth. That is necessary because naltrexone is not available in Australia and must be approved under the therapeutic goods administration; however, it can be brought in if it is for an approved trial. At present it is coming in under a section of the legislation which allows a drug to be brought in where there is a life saving need for it to be used, perhaps in an experimental situation. That is probably not the right way for the drug to be brought into Australia, or administered. Those matters are being handled now, and I hope the trial will be up and running in the near future. The Government supports the trial of naltrexone in this State, building on Dr O'Neil's experience.

The SPEAKER: Order! I am aware that we have an Acting Minister for Education in the House. Therefore, I will now allow the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to put his earlier question to the Acting Minister. I will then give the call to the member for Nollamara.

SCHOOLS - DISADVANTAGED SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Abolition

692. Mr RIPPER to the Acting Minister for Education:

Mr Speaker, I thank you for your indulgence, and I hope your confidence is well placed. I refer to the abolition of

the disadvantaged schools program and its supposed replacement by literacy programs now under threat from Federal Minister David Kemp and ask -

- (1) When will schools now receiving the disadvantaged schools grants be told whether they will receive similar grants for 1998?
- (2) What action is the State Government taking to provide alternative funds to these schools likely to miss out on commonwealth grants as a result of the dispute between the Minister for Education and his federal counterpart?

Mr BOARD replied:

- (1)-(2) Mr Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity you have given me to answer this question. Earlier today we spoke to you about the protocols for questions put to the Minister for Education when there is an Acting Minister for Education and also a Parliamentary Secretary assisting the Minister for Education. We were looking specifically at subjects the Opposition might cover today, on which I have been well briefed. Unfortunately, the subject the member raised is one on which I have not been well briefed, but as the Acting Minister for Education I will provide the member with the answer this afternoon.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH - SMOKING IN ENCLOSED WORKPLACES

Prohibition

693. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Labour Relations:

I refer to the Occupational Safety and Health Amendment Regulations (No 2) 1997, and the report by the Task Force on Passive Smoking in Public Places which was tabled today. The report stated that legal advice from the Health Department said -

The regulations in respect to workplaces are not enforceable with regard to clients.

Further on it said -

The practical impact on hoteliers, restaurateurs and casino operators will be minimal.

Does not this report show that the Minister deceived the people of Western Australia when he led them to believe that his regulations would prohibit smoking in enclosed workplaces?

Mr KIERATH replied:

This question is indicative of what this Government has come to expect from this Opposition. The Occupational Safety and Health Act was introduced by the Labor Party in Government. The general duty of care provisions already impose those obligations on employers. When I made my comment I said the general duty of care provisions of the Act, in conjunction with the regulations, would enforce the no-smoking provisions which apply to the workplace. Here we have a person who claims to be the opposition spokesperson on labour relations matters and he does not have a clue what he is talking about.

DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY AND LABOUR RELATIONS - PROSECUTION OF EMPLOYERS

Role of Minister for Labour Relations

694. Mr MacLEAN to the Minister for Labour Relations:

The member for Nollamara made serious allegations concerning the Minister's role in the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations' deciding whether employers should be prosecuted. Will the Minister inform the House whether these allegations are confirmed by departmental practices?

Mr KIERATH replied:

I thank the member for the question. Over the weekend there were reports that the Department of Productivity and Labour Relations had recovered \$90 000 in unpaid entitlements for employees. This was the result of the department's routine visit program which involves inspectors visiting sites. It was not the result of a visit which was initiated by a complaint, as is usually the case, but simply a visit to try to increase employer awareness. It is one of the positive programs introduced by this Government. It is important to make the distinction that if people make a complaint the offender might get a visit from the inspector, but this was a visit from inspectors to try to increase employer awareness of their obligations. I thought the Labor Party would support such an initiative.

When those records were inspected some minor discrepancies were found and the employers were asked to rectify

them. The routine visit program is an educational program run totally by DOPLAR, with no direct involvement by me. The Minister does not have the authority to intervene and tell the department what to do. It is interesting that this Government does not allow a Minister to intervene in decisions on whether prosecutions should be made and that is more than I can say about the Opposition when it was in government. The member for Thornlie is aware of the Everett case in which the Minister's office interfered and tried to prevent someone being prosecuted. We know all about the Opposition's standards. We do not operate like that.

As usual, the member for Nollamara simply ignored the facts. Again he is engaged in all sorts of disgraceful behaviour and is making serious accusations. He feels the employers should have been prosecuted. Members should think about it: There were 10 000 cases from which \$90 000 was recovered, which works out to \$9 a breach. Surely not even the Labor Party would suggest that we prosecute somebody for \$9. It would be a total waste of resources.

It gets worse. If that is not bad enough my notes indicate the member for Nollamara went on 6WF and said -

What we find from Mr Kierath is he's happy to do a nice little deal and let those employers off.

Those comments are absolutely disgraceful for a couple of reasons. It shows that the member has, firstly, a total ignorance of procedures in DOPLAR and, secondly, a total aversion to honesty.

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr RIPPER: I think it is unparliamentary to say of another member that he has a total aversion to honesty and I ask that the Minister be asked to withdraw that remark.

The SPEAKER: In the cut and thrust of politics there are difficult decisions to make. I will not ask the Minister to withdraw his comment, but I caution him on how he presents his answer.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr KIERATH: I was going to rephrase it by saying he has an almost total aversion to honesty.

This latest attempt has plunged the Opposition to new depths of political disgrace. The member for Nollamara is prepared to go to any lengths to score cheap political points. If the Leader of the Opposition has any leadership qualities he would do something about his spokesperson for Labour Relations.

TRANSPORT - AIR SERVICES

Busselton - Skywest Airlines Pty Ltd

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

I think the question should be directed to the Minister for Tourism. How much of the \$80 000 campaign to promote Skywest Airlines Pty Ltd flights to Busselton is being funded by the Western Australian Tourism Commission or by any other agency?

Mr OMODEI replied:

I was going to pass the answer to the appropriate Minister. I thank the member for some notice of this question. The Minister for Transport has supplied the following response -

To the best of my knowledge no funds have been allocated from agencies within the Transport portfolio to finance any campaign to promote Skywest flights to Busselton. The question would best be directed to my colleague the Minister for Tourism.