

Legislative Assembly

Tuesday, 22 November 2011

THE SPEAKER (Mr G.A. Woodhams) took the chair at 2.00 pm, and read prayers.

VEHICLE IMPOUNDING — Z-CARDS

Statement by Minister for Police

MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys — Minister for Police) [2.01 pm]: Reckless driving—hoon driving—and driving a vehicle with no authority to drive are two laws that have been introduced in recent years in Western Australia with the aim of changing driver behaviour. Western Australia Police will impound vehicles roadside in every instance when a person drives a vehicle without a valid driver's licence for certain unauthorised driving offences, or a person drives recklessly or commits a hoon offence. These laws are important and ensure that dangerous drivers are taken off the roads. In 2010, 2 024 vehicles were seized under the legislation, with 59 per cent of hoon drivers aged between 17 and 24 years. A correlation exists between unlicensed drivers and unlawful activity. In 2010, 12 per cent of drivers involved in fatal crashes were unlicensed. Vehicles are impounded for 28 days for a first offence for both of these offences. The towage and storage costs are the responsibility of the vehicle owner; however, WA Police bear this cost when vehicles are not retrieved by their owner. In order to lessen the economic impact on WA Police, and indeed to also lessen the cost to the vehicle owner, a new system has been developed known as the Z-Card. Drivers are now issued with a Z-Card at the roadside at the time of impoundment. The purpose of the card is to inform the public about roadside vehicle impoundment for driving a vehicle without a valid driver's licence, for certain unauthorised driving offences or for reckless—hoon—driving offences. The card provides specific information on how to collect the vehicle from the impound yard immediately following the impound period; how to reduce impoundment costs by adopting the early sale of vehicle where the vehicles are of low value; details of the impoundment periods for each offence and subsequent offences; and the early release of the vehicle where there is demonstrated hardship.

The card also provides consistent information for WA Police officers to give drivers at the roadside, as well as providing further information directing enquiries to the WAPOL website. Owners or drivers with access to a smartphone can even use the code at the back of the Z-Card to download information directly onto their phone. WA Police are confident that this new system will ensure that drivers are fully briefed on the impoundment system and on the options that are available to them should they wish not to collect their vehicle to avoid storage costs.

[See paper 4231.]

DIVERSE WA — ONLINE CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING PACKAGE

Statement by Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests

MR G.M. CASTRILLI (Bunbury — Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests) [2.04 pm]: I am pleased to inform the house that I recently launched the Diverse WA cultural competency training package. This training package will help WA's public sector employees develop their knowledge, skills and awareness to work effectively with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The training package is a self-paced online tool, and is delivered through an interactive and user-friendly website.

The training is divided into learning modules. The introductory module introduces users to the principles, objectives and benefits of cultural competency. Modules 2 and 3 focus on developing effective verbal and non-verbal communication skills. Both modules look at culture and how culture and personal experience influence our way of communicating. Module 4 focuses on working with interpreters and translators. It provides information and guidelines on working with, finding and booking interpreters and translators.

Diversity is at the heart of Western Australia's identity and strength. The state government values our cultural diversity and is committed to making Western Australians from diverse backgrounds feel welcome and included in this state. Diverse WA also demonstrates the government's commitment to delivering better services and more equitable outcomes to the state's diverse citizens. This online training facility will help Western Australian public sector staff to work more effectively and responsively with clients, colleagues and communities from CALD backgrounds. The package provides information about WA's cultural heritage, relevant policies, legislation and ways to improve verbal and non-verbal communication skills, as well as information on working with interpreters and translators.

Diverse WA was developed by the Office of Multicultural Interests in partnership with the Public Sector Commission and the Mental Health Commission. I was pleased to host the Public Sector Commissioner and several directors general and chief executive officers of a number of government departments and agencies at the

launch. The general consensus at the launch was that the package is a much-needed and long-overdue training resource. Although Diverse WA was launched only a few weeks ago, OMI is already receiving positive feedback about it from various public sector agencies. The training has already been taken up by public sector staff in the regions and Perth metropolitan area. I encourage all public sector staff to participate in the training.

VALLEY OF THE GIANTS TREE TOP WALK

Statement by Minister for Environment

MR W.R. MARMION (Nedlands — Minister for Environment) [2.07 pm]: I inform the house that on 12 November I joined members of the local community in celebrating the fifteenth birthday of the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk, between Denmark and Walpole. Managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Tree Top Walk is the result of a vision to conserve and protect the tingle forest in the Valley of the Giants while providing an outstanding visitor experience.

The Tree Top Walk structure, which provides a walk through the canopy along with a ground-level boardwalk, is a tremendous feat of environmentally sustainable engineering. The walk allows many thousands of visitors each year to experience the unique tingle forest without trampling and compacting the soils at the base of the trees. The fact that 2.6 million visitors have enjoyed the Tree Top Walk experience over the past 15 years without any detrimental impact on the surrounding forest is testimony to that vision and the design and construction of the facility.

The Tree Top Walk is a valuable tourism magnet for the region, and, indeed, Western Australia, and it underpins the tourism industry in that part of the south west. It is important to the regional economy, earning \$24.3 million since it was opened by the then Premier Richard Court in 1996 and creating valuable employment opportunities for local people both at the Tree Top Walk and in local businesses. This money has been reinvested in the facility, funding three discovery centres, as well as other visitor sites across the region between Manjimup and Mt Barker and from Walpole to Denmark.

The Tree Top Walk also is among the state's most highly awarded tourism destinations, having won the BHP Steel Award, WA Civic Design Award, the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects National Project Award, the Disability Services Commission Action on Access Award and the British Airways Tourism for Tomorrow Environment Experience Award. Not surprisingly, the facility in 2001 entered the WA Tourism Awards Hall of Fame after winning the Significant Regional Attraction Award three years in a row.

The Tree Top Walk has been a great success story for this state, and we should be proud of its status and the achievements of everyone involved since its inception. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the enthusiasm of DEC's staff and others involved in running the facility. They are great ambassadors for the department and the state, and make a major contribution to ensure that the 150 000 visitors a year to the Tree Top Walk have a wonderful experience.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER — PHOTOGRAPHER

Point of Order

Mr M. McGOWAN: Mr Speaker, I seek your advice in relation to an important issue that came before the house on 10 November—the last Thursday sitting day. On that day, I observed, and other members observed, a photographer in the gallery on that side of the house. I raised the issue with you at a point some time into question time. You then advised the house —

We have an understanding with *The West Australian* newspaper that it can take photographs in the first 10 minutes of question time.

That was the advice you provided the house.

Mr Speaker, it turns out that the photographer was from another publication and the photograph that was taken was then used, I think, quite mischievously in that publication in quite a misleading article. The photograph implied that members of the house were not here during question time who were here during question time, but the photograph was taken at a moment in which those members were not in those seats. Furthermore, Mr Speaker, the context in which the photograph appeared implied that some members were not playing a role in the house, which was clearly untrue to all members here. My questions to you are these —

- (1) Why did you advise the house there was a photographer from one publication when clearly the photographer was not from that publication?
- (2) Is it not the case that ordinarily the Speaker advises the house in advance so that members are aware and can put on their coats and do their personal grooming and so forth?
- (3) But most importantly, Mr Speaker, when approval was provided for this photograph to be taken, were you aware of the point of the story, which was clearly misleading?

The SPEAKER: Let me provide some advice to you, member for Rockingham. One thing I would expect from all members in this place who are going to raise a point of order with me, particularly on an issue that has occurred previously in this place, is that they would bring that matter to my attention prior to my coming into this place, as that might be very useful. Member for Rockingham, to this very moment, it was my impression, my understanding, that the individual you are referring to—I do not know if it was a him or a her—was from *The West Australian* newspaper, and what I said in the house on that day is what I know. I know nothing of the article you are referring to. I know nothing of the photos that were taken. In fact, if someone from *The West Australian* comes in here today—I am presuming there is not someone here from *The West Australian*—I do not know what photographs they would be seeking; I do not know what story might accompany such photographs. Member for Rockingham, you do raise a good point of order. What I am saying to you is that I certainly would have appreciated you coming to see me—you know you can do that; all members in this place can do so—and make the point to me previously.

I am going to follow this through, and members know from previous dealings that I have had in this place that I will follow all of these things through. All I am saying at this point is that I am totally unaware of who that person was now that the member for Rockingham has presented this information to me. At the time, my understanding was that the individual was from *The West Australian* newspaper. My understanding also is that for the first 10 minutes of question time we have an arrangement to allow a photographer from *The West* in. If the member for Rockingham wishes to speak to me after question time today and provide the information that he has and the documents sitting on the desk in front of him, I am more than happy to do that. I am not going to say anything more.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

TAXI INDUSTRY — DRIVER MISCONDUCT

802. Mr E.S. RIPPER to the Minister for Transport:

Before I ask my question I would like to acknowledge the safe arrival of the member for West Swan's twins last week.

I refer to recent revelations in *The West Australian* that taxidriviers who have engaged in inappropriate behaviour such as trying to kiss a nine-year-old or directly asking a passenger for sex have only received cautions or infringements, and I ask —

- (1) Has the minister personally investigated these claims?
- (2) Are these drivers still in the industry?
- (3) Does the state government believe that drivers who behave in this way should remain in the industry?
- (4) What has the minister done to ensure that these drivers are removed from the industry permanently?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

I thank the Leader of the Opposition for the question.

- (1)–(4) In relation to the first aspect, I have not received any additional advice in relation to the issue with the young girl. I have received advice in relation to the issue of the driver who in my view entirely inappropriately requested or made requests of his female passengers. That driver's licence is currently suspended, and it is my understanding that that driver will not be returning to the industry.

This is a significant issue. The behaviour of taxidriviers and the behaviour of some taxi customers is something that not only concerns the government, but also I think there is a broader level of concern across the community. That is why we are doing things to address it. That is why we are investing in new security cameras in our cabs. As of Monday this week, there are 122 security cameras fitted to our cabs that record image and voice, which will help enormously in the investigation of the types of complaint that the Leader of the Opposition raised. One of the issues that arises in these circumstances is that when the matters are referred to the police, on 50 per cent of the occasions when police request closed-circuit television or in-car footage, it is unable to be provided. That is not a good outcome. That is why we are investing the money in the new cameras; the new cameras will address that situation. That is why we are investing in a major review.

Mr E.S. Ripper: Aren't you late with those new cameras?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL: No. The opposition never did it when it was in government. I would be very careful —

Mr E.S. Ripper: You've been in government for three years or more.

Mr T.R. BUSWELL: And they are going in. There are 144 in, and there is a rollout program across a two-year period. There are 2 000 cabs in Western Australia. The newer cabs have cameras that are a lot more effective; the older cabs have cameras that are largely defective. They are being replaced. Let me again state in this house

that we have made, and will continue to make, a concerted effort to improve safety and security in our cabs. Cabs should be safe places. When a person gets in a cab in the evening to go home, they should be able to do so safely and with an expectation that it will be safe. When a cab driver gets in his or her cab to go to work, they should do so with an expectation that they will not be assaulted or bashed. These are serious matters that we are addressing. Not only are the cameras going in the cars, but also a new secure rank will be opening soon in Northbridge. We have dramatically increased the number of compliance vehicles on the road on Friday and Saturday nights, when 40 per cent of taxi trips are taken, and there are now more and more inspections of cabs.

I will give members a very simple statistic. In 2008, there were 717 inspections of taxis; last year there were 5 035. Vehicles are not inspected without an investment in resources and vehicles are not inspected without an intent to make a difference. We have, Leader of the Opposition, an intent to make a difference; we have an intent to improve the taxi industry in terms of security, standards and availability. The only party in this chamber that opposes improvements to the taxi industry around availability and standards, including the security cameras, is the opposition. The opposition's only piece of public policy engagement around the taxi industry has been in two areas: firstly, to oppose the introduction of new cabs on the roads to enable people to actually get a cab when they want one; and, secondly, to paint them gold. We have a serious agenda to make cabs safer; the former Labor government did not.

TAXI INDUSTRY — DRIVER MISCONDUCT

803. Mr E.S. RIPPER to the Minister for Transport:

I have a supplementary question. In February, the minister advised the house —

... we will be making changes to the way we monitor the ongoing performance and behaviour of taxidriviers.

Why, nine months later, has the house not been presented with any legislation on this issue?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

We are working through the legislative framework that will enable us to deliver the demerit points system for cab drivers.

Ms M.M. Quirk: What does that mean?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL: The member for Girrawheen has been in cabinet. Maybe she was awake some of the time she was in there; maybe she was not. What that means, member for Girrawheen, is that we will work with the industry to develop a framework within which that legislation will sit. I will then go and seek the endorsement of my colleagues to proceed with the drafting of that legislation, and then it will be introduced. That is what it means.

Mr E.S. Ripper: It doesn't mean you're asleep at the wheel?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL: Again, Leader of the Opposition, in eight long years in government, what did the opposition do to improve standards in the taxi industry?

Mr E.S. Ripper: When did the problems emerge?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL: The opposition did nothing! I will tell members what it did; it rushed out and put a whole lot of extra cabs on the road and changed all the rules so that a whole lot of drivers—many of them with substandard qualifications—could come to Western Australia from other states. We are now trying to deal with the aftermath of the opposition's disastrous approach to the taxi industry in this state when in government.

MINERALS RESOURCE RENT TAX — WESTERN AUSTRALIAN IMPACT

804. Mr I.C. BLAYNEY to the Premier:

Can the Premier please explain to the house what impact Labor —

Mr P. Papalia: The hardest working member of Parliament!

The SPEAKER: If the member for Warnbro wants to ask a question, I will give him that opportunity. I formally call the member to order for the first time today.

Mr I.C. BLAYNEY: Can the Premier please explain to the house what impact Labor's, the Greens', Rob Oakeshott's and Tony Windsor's mining tax will have on Western Australia?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

It is a good question and I thank the member for Geraldton for it. It seems that Rob Oakeshott is now basically controlling the agenda in Australia. He is the man who took 22 minutes to decide which side of politics he would support, and his deputy leader is Tony Windsor. The last 24 hours has been one of the most shameful episodes in Australian politics. This is a policy that the Labor Party in Western Australia now formally supports. Let me just

tell members what this is about. To get the support of Messrs Oakeshott and Windsor for the minerals resource rent tax, those two members raised the issue of coal seam gas in their electorate, perhaps legitimately. There is no doubt there are significant environmental issues related to coal seam gas extraction. In response, the deal that was done by the Prime Minister and the federal Treasurer was to recognise that there were environmental issues and they would set up an independent expert scientific committee. I have no objection to that. I think that more work should be done on the science and understanding of the impact coal seam gas extraction has on near-surface water structures and the like. It is a real issue. They also proposed—this was outlined in a letter from the Prime Minister to me and, I presume, other Premiers—that in addition to the expert scientific committee, there would be a proposal for a national partnership on approvals. That is a whole new layer of federal bureaucracy on project approvals. Initially —

Mr E.S. Ripper: Didn't Howard give us that with the new PBC? Haven't we got that already? What about cockatoos?

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition! I formally call you to order for the first time today.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Initially, when I first read it, I thought they were talking about an approvals process over coal seam gas, and there may be some logic in that. However, it is not about that; it is about approvals on all extractive industries where there may be some or a projected or a possible impact on the watertable—in other words, the entire mining industry in Western Australia. This is not just about coal seam gas and petroleum or tight gas; it is about the entire extractive industry. It is now proposed that every mining project in Western Australia will have a new level of environmental approval to be funded to the tune of \$250 million from the minerals resource rent tax. This is just astounding. The hapless Mr Oakeshott is now basically determining minerals and petroleum policy in Australia and is supported by the Labor government in Canberra and the Labor opposition in Western Australia.

Mr E.S. Ripper: Maybe if Tony Abbott didn't say no all the time, the Independents wouldn't have so much leverage.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I know that the Leader of the Opposition supports it. He can defend his position and I will make our position. As I said, the Prime Minister wrote to each Premier outlining part of the proposal, but her letter was incomplete. She wrote a different letter to Rob Oakeshott and, I presume, Windsor and others. This was quite different in context. It explained the expert committee but then went on to make a pitch—that is what it must be seen as—again by the commonwealth government for the total control of the minerals industry in this state. That is what the resource super profits tax was all about. I will read one paragraph from the Prime Minister's letter. It states —

The Government —

This is the federal government, obviously —

believes that state royalties are an inefficient means of taxing our natural resources and a resource rent tax is a more efficient way of assessing the benefits of our nation's resources for the long term.

That is a takeover bid if ever I have seen one. I will not go through the arguments for and against a royalty regime versus a profits-based regime, but the federal government is saying that the mining companies do not pay enough. That is its justification for a minerals resource rent tax.

Mr E.S. Ripper interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: It is my answer, Mr Speaker. They just assert, as Ken Henry did, that royalties are inefficient. The argument of Ken Henry and his review was that mining projects either close down or do not go ahead because of state royalties. At the time I said to him, "Name me a project." To this day he has been unable to do so. He has been unable to name one single project that has not proceeded or has closed down because of royalties.

The commonwealth approach, the Labor Party approach, is a profits tax. I can think of examples when companies have not made profits in the mining industry. Under that proposal they would pay nothing for the natural gas or the mineral. If there was no profit, there would be MRRT or profits-based tax; nothing would be paid. There are examples of that in the Australian mining industry. Imagine that scenario, where there was a mining project—maybe prices have fallen and they are unprofitable. Therefore, they pay no profits tax; therefore, they pay nothing for the mineral. Imagine the scenario if that is an overseas company. We would be the only country in the world giving away our natural resources. Do members call that efficient? I do not at all. It is far easier to shift a profit than it is to shift a tonne of iron ore, and that is what will happen in multinational business. What a foolish, foolish, limited approach, but the opposition supports it.

But it gets more sinister than that, because in an additional paragraph from the Prime Minister to Mr Oakeshott—this has been reinforced by the Treasurer—it reads —

On this basis, the Government has asked that the GST distribution review look at a mechanism to penalise and discourage those states which undertake any further royalty increases.

For the first time in my history, we have a Prime Minister of this country threatening the states that it will penalise them. What sort of an Australian attitude is that? It is disgraceful and shameful. It is absolutely shameful that a federal Labor government is threatening the states. What it is doing is absolutely appalling.

There can be arguments, but if one looks at the mining industry, over 60 per cent of it is in Western Australia. Sixty-five per cent of the mineral resource rent tax revenues are to be collected from our state. Now we have Wayne Swan threatening the states that they will actually lose out on infrastructure funding. Here they go again. They are going to penalise and punish Western Australia for its success. Would it not be nice to have a federal Prime Minister and a federal Treasurer that actually put some effort into the industries or the states in trouble? What about the 3 000 jobs at risk in Whyalla? What about the 1 000 jobs that went out of Wollongong? What about Queensland, where there is a collapsed property and tourism industry and debt so high they are simply selling off any asset they can to pay the bills? What about dealing with that? No, this Prime Minister and this Treasurer want to hit Western Australia and damage and hurt this state. Why? I do not understand. What about the threat from Wayne Swan, “the world’s greatest Treasurer” apparently? World’s greatest Treasurer? He cannot look after jobs. He has no plan for manufacturing in this country, and yet he calls himself the world’s greatest Treasurer.

The threat will cut infrastructure funding. What sort of a threat is that? It is a paper threat, because this state will pay 65 per cent of the mineral resources rent tax. Remember at the federal election the federal Labor Party promised \$100 million for the Gorgon project. Treasurer, have you got the money?

Mr C.C. Porter: No.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: No, he has not got it. He has not seen a dollar of it—\$100 million; we have not seen a dollar.

Mr M. McGowan: You make it up as you go along!

The SPEAKER: Member for Rockingham, member for Cannington, I formally call you both to order for the first time.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I refer to a future project, the Browse LNG project—a very important settlement of native title and support for the local Indigenous population. The Western Australian government has committed \$300 million to that to help Indigenous people of that area. How much do members reckon the commonwealth has contributed? Zero; not one dollar have they pulled out of their pocket for that. I will give members another example, a little bit less direct. At the time of the Keating government, when the native title legislation was passed, the Keating government committed to meet 75 per cent —

Mr E.S. Ripper: No, that was Howard. That was Howard to Court; I dealt with this. It was Howard to Court, after Wik. You’ve got it wrong.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: No, the Keating government —

Mr D.A. Templeman: This is the biggest improvisation I’ve ever heard!

The SPEAKER: Member for Mandurah, I formally call you to order for the first time today. Member for Joondalup, I call you to order for the first time today. I am not interested in any more outbursts.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The Keating government committed to fund 75 per cent of native title settlements. That was part of the grand speech about reconciliation and the like—very admirable. The Howard government confirmed that; the Gillard government has rejected it. So much for the Labor Party’s commitment to Aboriginal reconciliation. It has not put one dollar into it. Only the Liberal–National government has actually put money on the table for Aboriginal reconciliation. What a fraud the Labor Party is, and what a disgrace the Prime Minister and the federal Treasurer are.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, I call you to order for the first time today.

METROPOLITAN RAIL LINES — POLICE OPERATION RAIL SAFE

805. **Mr W.J. JOHNSTON to the Minister for Police:**

Before I ask my question, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker’s gallery this afternoon of students from Mandurah Baptist College, in the electorate of the member for Mandurah.

I refer the Minister for Police to newspaper advertisements that promoted his promise of passenger security on our trains and to the Liberal Party’s 2008 election commitment to improve the security of rail passengers by increasing the number of police officers on the rail network.

- (1) What action has the minister taken to implement this promise?
- (2) Why has the authorised strength of officers in the police public transport division actually been reduced?
- (3) What actions will the minister now take to implement this promise?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON replied:

(1)–(3) I can announce today that WA Police will be conducting Operation Rail Safe from this Friday, 25 November, for a period of four weeks. Officers from —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cockburn and member for Girrawheen, I formally call you to order for the first time today. Member for Midland and member for Rockingham, if you wish to converse, might I suggest you do so outside the chamber.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Officers from the police transport unit, the Public Transport Authority, south east metropolitan district, central metropolitan district, regional operations group and other specialist areas —

Point of Order

Ms M.M. QUIRK: The minister is reading from an official document; I ask that he table it.

The SPEAKER: I will have a look at the document post this question being answered, and provide an answer on the document to the house at that point, member for Girrawheen.

[See page 9491.]

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: It is not an official document; it has notes on it so I can clearly enunciate what we are doing.

I am not quite sure how far I got before I was rudely interrupted by the member for Girrawheen. Let me just repeat this part: officers from the police transport unit, the Public Transport Authority, south east metropolitan district, central metropolitan district, regional operations group and other specialist areas will predominantly focus on the Armadale line each Friday and Saturday night for the duration of Operation Rail Safe. This operation will engage a no-tolerance approach to any antisocial or criminal behaviour, ensuring early intervention to minimise reoffending. Passive alert dogs —

Point of Order

The SPEAKER: Member for Cannington, I will take your point of order, but —

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: Thank you. I raise —

The SPEAKER: Member for Cannington! I indicate to the house that if trivial points of order continue to come to me, they will be treated in a manner such that, member for Cannington, you might perhaps wish to reconsider. I will take your point of order.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: I have a serious point of order, Mr Speaker. I asked a three-part question about a promise made by the Liberal Party at the time of the 2008 election, and the minister seems not to be dealing with the issues that I raised, which —

The SPEAKER: Take a seat, member for Cannington. The Minister for Police is answering the questions that you asked. If members wish to continue to interrupt question time in this manner, I will formally call them to order, and that is what I am going to do with you, member for Cannington. I formally call you to order for a second time. It is not a point of order.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Passive alert dogs will be utilised during the operation to assist in detecting commuters involved in drug offences. WA Police, in conjunction with the Public Transport Authority, will provide high visibility patrols specifically on the 2.15 am and the 4.00 am Armadale-bound trains to manage and monitor the behaviour of commuters. These officers will remain on the train for the duration of the journey. A further contingent of police and PTA officers will be placed at McIver, Claisebrook, Burswood, Oats Street, Cannington and Gosnells railway stations to monitor and manage the behaviour of the disembarking commuters. Covert officers will be placed on the trains during the evening to assist in detecting and identifying groups who utilise the train services —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I am sure the member for Cannington is interested in the answer to the question. Member for Pilbara, member for Warnbro and member for Bassendean, it would seem that you are not. Member for

Warnbro, I call you to order for the second time, member for Bassendean for the first time and member for Pilbara for the first time. I ask that members in this place respect the question being asked, quite simply.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Mr Speaker, as you quite rightly said, the question was in relation to the promise of more police officers on our transit system, and I am doing exactly that.

As I was saying, covert officers will be placed on the trains during the evening to assist in detecting and identifying groups who utilise the train services as a form of entertainment rather than for transport purposes. Police transport staff will be rostered in the PTA camera room to assist in directing resources to identified hot spots. Police will identify and monitor liquor outlets located within walking distance of the train stations in an effort to detect alcohol-related offences.

The police transport unit will ensure that all statistical information is captured for the duration of the operation, which will be reviewed with a possibility —

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro, I do not know whether you are on a mission, but I formally call you to order for the third time.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Mr Speaker, I am coming to a conclusion.

As I said, the police transport unit will ensure that all statistical information is captured for the duration of the operation, which will be reviewed with a possibility of a further extension. In addition, WA Police are transferring the southern rail unit to Perth to hub with the Perth rail unit to allow officers to focus and, indeed, to respond more rapidly on problem lines such as the Armadale line. As the Premier announced this morning, we will see more police on our trains.

METROPOLITAN RAIL LINES — POLICE OPERATION RAIL SAFE

806. Mr W.J. JOHNSTON to the Minister for Police:

I have a supplementary question. Does this answer mean that even after two officers have been injured, the minister still will not implement his promise to increase the number of police officers on the rail network?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON replied:

I thought I just said quite clearly that we will be —

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Girrawheen!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: We will be —

Mr W.J. Johnston: Here's your promise!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I think I answered that question quite clearly. Obviously, the member has some problem in understanding facts.

ARMADALE RAIL LINE — ATTACK ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY OFFICERS

807. Mr J.M. FRANCIS to the Minister for Transport:

I am sure that every member in this house was deeply disturbed about the reports of the cowardly attack on some transport security guards over the weekend. I ask the minister whether he can enlighten the house on the details of that particular attack and also whether he can update us on the condition of the two security guards.

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

I thank the member for the question. Obviously, there was an incident on Sunday morning on the 2.15 train on the Armadale, or south eastern, line from the city. I do not need to go into all the details of it; I think members in this house will be well apprised of it. Suffice it to say that transit officers from the Public Transport Authority found themselves on the Beckenham platform with a group of people who effectively had been fighting with another group on that train. I watched the CCTV footage on the Sunday afternoon and received a briefing from the PTA. Those officers performed very well in dispersing that crowd. Their training really shone through and they conducted themselves in a very professional way in a difficult circumstance.

Subsequent to the dispersal of the majority of people, one officer in particular, Dave Lambert, had his notebook out and was effectively taking some notes from one of the participants in the fight on the train when another one approached him from the side, struck him and knocked him off the platform. That CCTV footage has gone to the courts and the courts will deal with that. A second officer was subsequently injured as she attempted to restrain the offender. She either had a bottle thrown at her or was struck across the back of the head. I can tell the house that the footage is disgusting. The cowardly nature of the attacks shocked me. I am sure it would shock anybody who looked at the footage.

I visited Dave Lambert yesterday in hospital. He is remarkably buoyant considering what he has been through. He has three fractured vertebrae. He informed me that he hopes to be fully physically healed in about six weeks, although I suspect his full recovery may take some time longer. He is certainly looking forward to returning to work. The female officer, Jessica, received 20 stitches to her cheek and neck area. I spoke to her on the phone last night. She is a remarkable person and is still very buoyant. I was both proud of, and humbled by, the approach of these two individuals. They are extremely proud of their job and the level of professionalism they display in what they do. Remarkably, all they want to do is get back to work so that they can help their mates in what is probably the most unforgiving and misunderstood job in the public sector in Western Australia. Ultimately, these people physically place themselves between very aggressive people on a very regular basis. We will monitor and support the officers during their rehabilitation and I hope that both of them will soon be back where they want to be, which is in the workplace. I am sure I speak on behalf of every member in this house when I say how sorry we are that they were subject to this attack. We all wish them a very speedy recovery. I again say that they are remarkable individuals and it was a great privilege to have an opportunity to meet with them yesterday.

There has been a lot of discussion on this issue of train security. This government has increased the number of transit officers. We have to understand that transit officers are well trained. They have powers of arrest and all of the training that is incumbent on someone who has those powers of arrest. They do an excellent job on our public transport system. In 2008 there were about 220 transit officers; by the end of this year there will be just over 240. That is about a 10 per cent increase across the last three years. They are out there serving our community.

The government has also made a major investment in improving the level of CCTV surveillance in our buses, on our trains and centrally through the central monitoring unit. I am not sure whether we would say this is a positive, but I hope the quality of the CCTV footage will help the court make the appropriate determination in relation to the two offenders. The government is taking action on train security and we will continue to take action. A few years ago there was an issue with buses. We all remember the case of Gerard Sin, who was attacked with a brick. Subsequent to that and other attacks on drivers, we made a range of changes, and the number of security incidents on buses is declining. We will continue to invest to tackle the issues on our trains. As the Minister for Police pointed out, Operation Rail Safe will commence this week and run over a period of four weeks. I am very confident that will help to deal with the issues that have arisen, particularly on the Armadale line out to Oats Street. I have asked the PTA to commence a more aggressive recruiting campaign next year to put on more transit officers. We have made some improvements in numbers. I think we have more work to do.

Over the next couple of weeks I will be meeting with transit officers on the job to sit down and have discussions with them. Already they have made some positive suggestions to me. One example is around the reintroduction of paid tickets on late-night services. The transit officers say to me that if a person needs to have a ticket, it helps the transit officers in keeping the peace on the platforms and on the trains; and I accept that advice 100 per cent. I think we need to work with the transit officers as well to look at some aspects of platform design; their argument is that certain elements of the platform design need to be addressed.

So we will engage with the transit officers, and we will invest and will leave no stone unturned in continuing to make our trains safe. I think we have to understand that we have a great public transport system in Western Australia. The unfortunate reality is that there are a few cowardly, gutless individuals who think that the way to finish a good night out is to attempt to assault one of our public officers. These public officers go to work to help make the travelling experience safer for us, so I support their efforts. Our thoughts are with the two officers who were injured, and we will continue to invest to make our train system safer.

MORTGAGEE HOUSING STRESS — BANKRUPTCIES

808. Mrs M.H. ROBERTS to the Treasurer:

I refer to the increasing number of bankruptcies in Western Australia, and to the extreme housing stress being experienced by many Western Australian families.

- (1) Why is Western Australia the worst state performer on bankruptcies, with September quarter bankruptcies up by over 40 per cent, and appointment of receivers by secured lenders increasing by 52 per cent for the first nine months of 2011 compared with the same period in 2010?
- (2) Why does Western Australia now have the highest rate of mortgagees in housing stress, according to the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling, with Western Australia published at 14 per cent housing stress, and with the next highest state being New South Wales, at 12 per cent?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for her question. The question is in two parts: why are there more bankruptcies in Western Australia than in other jurisdictions; and—sorry, member, the second part of the question was?

Mrs M.H. Roberts: Why are bankruptcies up by over 40 per cent and appointment of receivers by secured lenders up by over 50 per cent?

Mr C.C. PORTER: The point that the member seeks to make is that those two statistics are indicative of the idea that somehow people in Western Australia in lower income demographics are worse off than people in other parts of Australia. One of the explanations that has been given by both the Australian Bureau of Statistics and, indeed, the authors of that report with respect to the higher number of bankruptcies in Western Australia is that there is a massively larger amount of business that goes on, as a matter of sheer volume, in Western Australia than elsewhere in Australia.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: It is percentage growth.

Mr C.C. PORTER: So one of the reasons we have a greater number of bankruptcies —

Mr E.S. Ripper interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mr C.C. PORTER: They are percentages of bankruptcies compared with other states, in a massive turnover of business activity in Western Australia. So, we are the business destination and the business capital of Australia at the moment on a per capita basis and looking across at all the other states.

Mr E.S. Ripper: So, it's a good statistic?

Mr C.C. PORTER: We would always hope for fewer bankruptcies, but the contention that that indicates that things in the business community in Western Australia are poor is unfounded. When we look at the data—we can go through it—to investigate the contention about whether people in Western Australia are better or worse off than people in other states, the Australian Bureau of Statistics gives some absolutely excellent data, shadow Treasurer. When we look at average weekly household expenditure on recreation, across all income demographics, Western Australia's is higher than anywhere else in Australia.

Mr B.J. Grylls: People are having more fun!

Mrs M.H. Roberts: It means that there are some people with a lot of disposable income and there are some people without so much—absolutely it does!

Mr C.C. PORTER: No, no, no; that is not what it means. What it means is that across all income demographic profiles in Western Australia, we spend \$181 on recreation, whereas in poor old South Australia, people spend only \$135. They are not going out much to the movies in South Australia, because their economy is not doing as well. Interestingly, member, there is also a contention that floats around this economy that electricity prices are outrageously high compared with those in other jurisdictions. The fact is that when we look at average weekly household expenditure across all income demographics in Western Australia, we spend the second lowest of all jurisdictions on domestic fuel and power, as a percentage of our income, in this jurisdiction.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: What a con—as a percentage of a much higher income average.

Mr C.C. PORTER: Let us look then at the low-income “equivalised” household disposable income. This is what the ABS says is the low-income demographic in this state.

Mr E.S. Ripper: This is compelling!

Mr C.C. PORTER: Keep in mind that the point of the question is somehow that things in WA are terrible and that is the government's fault.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: No; there are people in Western Australia who are in real mortgage stress. That's the point. Real people are having real difficulty paying their mortgages.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland!

Mr C.C. PORTER: Let us look at that, member, and the low income demographic in Western Australia—this is the low income as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. This chart shows the mean income of low-income households in Western Australia compared with those in all the other states of Australia, and the very highest bar there is in Western Australia.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: We are talking about people on middle incomes and all incomes.

Mr C.C. PORTER: It is significantly above the average for low-income earners. I put this to the shadow Treasurer —

Mrs M.H. Roberts: I am saying that you are taking into account a lot of retirees and people who are on low incomes who have perhaps paid off their houses, so your figures aren't relevant. I am interested in middle-income families who are living in the outer suburbs of Perth and who can't pay their mortgages.

Mr C.C. PORTER: I might put my point rhetorically. Where would the shadow Treasurer prefer to be a low-income earner in Australia?

A government member: Western Australia.

Mr C.C. PORTER: I would have thought so, because people here earn significantly more than low-income earners in Tasmania, South Australia, Victoria or New South Wales. When we look at this chart, the point made by this data put out by the ABS is that if we grow our economy, which this government is doing, everyone benefits from that growth. I know that is something that the shadow Treasurer's side of politics has always found difficult to come to grips with, but if we grow the economy, people do better.

Several members interjected.

Mr C.C. PORTER: Thank you, member; yes.

The point is the data about mortgage stress and bankruptcies does not accord with all the other data we have that says low-income earners —

Several members interjected.

Mr C.C. PORTER: There are explanations for it. Because the economy is growing, low-income earners in Western Australia are doing better than other low-income earners in other jurisdictions.

Mr P.C. Tinley: Western Australian families have never had it so good; come on, say it.

The SPEAKER: Member for Willagee, I call you to order for the first time. Treasurer, I indicate to you that if you seek interjections, you will get them.

Mr C.C. PORTER: I did not seek that one, Mr Speaker.

The point is this: in this economy, unemployment is lower than it is in any other place in Australia. Business growth is higher than it is in any other place in Australia. Wages in every single band of income are higher in Western Australia than they are everywhere else in Australia. Electricity prices are well below the mean and are the second or third lowest of anywhere else in Australia. That means, contrary to the shadow Treasurer's contention, that WA is a very good place to be. Whether one is running a business, earning an income or looking for employment, this is a very good jurisdiction to be in.

MORTGAGEE HOUSING STRESS — BANKRUPTCIES

809. **Mrs M.H. ROBERTS to the Treasurer:**

I have a supplementary question. Is the Treasurer so far in denial that he will not acknowledge that cost-of-living pressures in Western Australia, such as his massive hikes in electricity, water and gas prices, are driving families, couples and single people to the wall? Will he do nothing about the pressures they are under?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

We had this debate the other day. Of course, what Labor promised the people of Western Australia they would get if Labor won the election was seven years of 10 per cent a year increases in electricity.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: You promised lower taxes and charges and delivered the opposite.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland!

Mr C.C. PORTER: There have been electricity price increases under this government, just as there would have been under the shadow Treasurer's government, and her government promised them.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: You said they would be lower under you.

Mr C.C. PORTER: The contention, shadow Treasurer, that somehow or other what has been created in Western Australia is a high-cost jurisdiction is just not true.

Mr P. Papalia: Bring out another chart.

Mr C.C. PORTER: I will show members another chart that shows electricity price comparisons across the jurisdictions. Members can see there that, compared with all the other jurisdictions in Australia, Western Australia's actual cost of electricity is well below the average. The contention in the shadow Treasurer's question, which needed to be better researched, that somehow it is much harder to live here than it is in other jurisdictions, again, is just not true. But keep going back, you will get there.

KARRATHA — DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

810. **Mr V.A. CATANIA to the Minister for Regional Development:**

Last week an announcement was made by the minister and the Premier about a major land development in Karratha. Could the minister provide the house with details of the Mulataga land project, commonly known as the back beach, and the upgrade of the Karratha city centre, all vital projects of the royalties for regions Pilbara Cities program?

Mr B.J. GRYLLS replied:

I thank the member for North West for the question and for his great passion in ensuring that the many years of neglect of the north west is turned around. The member for North West can be confident in the knowledge that as well as the excellent job the Treasurer has done managing the state's economy as he has just outlined, and the excellent job standing up for Western Australia against those marauders from Canberra that the Premier has outlined today, we have a clear vision for the Pilbara in Western Australia. No better can that be shown than by the announcement that the Premier made just last week when talking about our major expansion of Karratha. We have a master plan for Karratha to grow to a city of 50 000 people. The local community has named that plan "Karratha, City of the North". We are well on track to deliver on that vision and we are laying the groundwork that will see that community grow and prosper into the future.

Through LandCorp we ran an extensive process to attract one of the top-end developers into Karratha, making sure that we could build on the liveability and amenity that will be required to make sure that Karratha can grow and be home to 50 000 people. That process delivered Mirvac Pty Ltd as the preferred proponent. It is now negotiating with LandCorp through an exclusive working period to come up with a final settlement on that project. That project will develop the city centre of Karratha, a major redevelopment of the CBD, as well as developing a new suburb called Mulataga, which links from Bulgarra right down towards Nickol Bay. It will be an outstanding development opportunity. We look forward to seeing that take shape. A total of \$130 million has been allocated to upgrade the infrastructure of the CBD—that is state royalties for regions funding—including new utilities and street works. This redevelopment creates a number of new development sites, which allows Mirvac to come in and build on those development sites. The sort of city that Karratha should have had planned for it maybe eight or so years ago did not happen, and we are doing that work now. These new CBD blocks will accommodate a 150-room hotel, 10 000 square metres of commercial space, hospitality and entertainment venues and a landscaped public square on a 1.5 hectare site.

While the Premier drives his vision of a new public square for the city of Perth—what a wonderful project that will be when we sink the railway in Northbridge—up in the north west we are looking at exactly the same opportunities to develop a city square and a heart for the good people of Karratha to call the heart of their CBD. This area will also include 50 service worker apartments, recognising that rents got out of control under the previous government and are a major challenge for small business and the not-for-profit sector. Already 100 of these units are for sale and are being rented by the small business sector and the not for profits. Another 50 will be part of this project. It is expected to be completed by mid-2014. This 1.5 hectare site alone will bring \$100 million of private sector investment into the Karratha CBD to partner with the well over \$130 million of state government investment in the CBD. We believe that future development of these sites will lead to private sector investment of just under \$400 million in the Karratha CBD. Mulataga will be the largest master plan community ever seen in Karratha. It will accommodate over 1 500 dwellings and feature a range of lot sizes and housing options and, most importantly, provide an interface between Karratha town and the waterfront. We like to call it the Cottesloe of the north because we know that the ability to attract 50 000 people to that town —

Several members interjected.

Mr B.J. GRYLLS: Those people would not have lived there when members of the Labor Party were in government because the Labor Party did not do anything. This is the problem. The Labor Party facilitated a massive expansion of the fly in, fly out workforce with no plan to transition that FIFO workforce into residential accommodation, the exact opposite of what we are doing. That is why the member for North West made the right decision when he decided to come over and join the good side to drive development in the Pilbara.

Several members interjected.

Mr B.J. GRYLLS: The member for North West can be very proud that he walked away from neglect and walked into a team that is going to deliver a vision for the Pilbara. We know that 1 500 dwellings will be built at Mulataga, which will link Karratha to the waterfront. We will see major public amenity built on the waterfront at Nickol Bay. At the same time as that part of the world delivers the economic drive for the state and the nation, we will provide liveability and amenity for the people who call Karratha home to allow them to live and prosper in that community, because we know that if people are living and prospering in the Pilbara, it means that the state is prospering. We just hope that maybe the commonwealth government might spend more time looking to partner in the growth of the Pilbara rather than just pillaging it for tax.

EDUCATION PARTICIPATION PROGRAM — OFFICER COMMENT

811. Mr B.S. WYATT to the Minister for Education:

I refer to the minister's comments in this place on 2 November referring to the north metropolitan education region that "Every school has an attendance officer—or almost every school". I also refer to an email from David Forster from the Department of Education sent on 9 November 2011 to all schools in the north metropolitan education region, which stated —

... the Minister has said that each school has an attendance officer — Please advise who are the attendance officers — is that their fulltime job or are there other staff who have been **given this as an extra duty**.

- (1) Why did the minister tell the Parliament that every school has an attendance officer when this clearly is not the case?
- (2) Does the minister now accept that there is a link between the minister cutting the budget of the participation directorate and the fact that the department does not know whether schools have an attendance officer?
- (3) Will the minister now commit to reinstate the participation directorate's full budget so that she can reverse the falling attendance rates of our public secondary students?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (1)–(3) The member for Victoria Park has actually muddled up two different concepts; one is attendance at school and the other is participation in school.

Mr B.S. Wyatt: You've muddled up!

The SPEAKER: Member for Victoria Park!

Dr E. CONSTABLE: I will say it again: the member for Victoria Park has muddled up two different concepts; one is attendance at school and the other is participation in school.

Mr B.S. Wyatt: And there's no link?

Dr E. CONSTABLE: Let me just —

Mr B.S. Wyatt: Minister, does every school have an attendance officer?

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bassendean, you did not ask the question; I formally call you to order for the second time. Member for Victoria Park, you have asked the question. I am hearing the minister attempting to answer that; your continual interjections are not going to assist. I formally call you to order for the first time today.

Dr E. CONSTABLE: So, every school has someone in the school, as I understand it —

Mr B.S. Wyatt: Clearly, you're wrong. I mean, the education department had to run around and confirm your own statement!

Dr E. CONSTABLE: If you know the answer, then answer your own question!

Mr B.S. Wyatt interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Victoria Park, I formally call you to order for the second time today.

Dr E. CONSTABLE: As I understand it, every school has someone within that school who is responsible for tracking attendance in the school and following up when there is no legitimate reason presented by parents for absence from school. So, in that case, there is someone with that responsibility in a school. Participation is a different concept and the two are linked. I agree with the member that they are linked, but participation officers were introduced, as I understand it, by the previous government when the school leaving age was increased to encourage those year 10s, 11s and 12s to continue on at school. That is what participation is about—actually participating in school.

Mr B.S. Wyatt: And attendance by year 10s, 11s and 12s was falling, which is why I'm asking you about the attendance officers.

Dr E. CONSTABLE: And attendance and participation in that sense are linked. There are two different officers that we are talking about; participation officers and that person within a school who is responsible for attendance, not necessarily the same person.

EDUCATION PARTICIPATION PROGRAM — OFFICER COMMENT

812. Mr B.S. WYATT to the Minister for Education:

I have a supplementary question. Is it not true that the north metropolitan education regional office employs 2.4 full-time equivalent attendance officers to service 230 schools in the north metropolitan region and, in fact, not every school has an attendance officer, as asserted by the minister in the Parliament?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

I will say what I said before. It is my understanding that there is someone in every school who is responsible for —

Mr B.S. Wyatt: That's not what you said before; you said every school has an attendance officer and you know it!

The SPEAKER: Member for Victoria Park, I formally call you to order for the third time today.

Dr E. CONSTABLE: Every school, as I understand it, has someone responsible for attendance in that school and to that extent every school has an attendance officer.

Mr B.S. Wyatt interjected.

Suspension of Member

The SPEAKER: Member for Victoria Park, I call you to order for the fourth time today and I ask you to leave this chamber.

[The member for Victoria Park left the chamber.]

WHEAT EXPORTS — SAUDI ARABIA

813. Mr M.J. COWPER to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

Back in October, the minister spoke about the —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Mandurah, you might have also upset me at this stage. I formally call you to order for the second time today.

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Girrawheen, I formally call you to order for the second time today. Member for Warnbro, consider yourself lucky to be in here still.

Mr M.J. COWPER: Back in October last year, the Minister for Agriculture and Food explained to the house about a very important wheat export to Saudi Arabia—the first in more than 20 years. Given that we will have a fairly reasonable wheat crop this year, can the minister please advise and update the house on progress in establishing Saudi Arabia as a key export market for Western Australia?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

I thank the member for Murray–Wellington very much for the question and, of course, his interest in the marketing of agricultural product out of Western Australia. Certainly, following on from last year, the season that is going now is very impressive and indeed it looks like being the second-biggest harvest. That said, there are still some areas that, given last year's season and some of the terms of trade issues in years previous to that, will still have some challenges.

The house will certainly recall, as the member highlighted, that I did highlight to the house the work the Department of Agriculture and Food had done with the Saudi government and the flour mills association over there to get access to that marketplace. I talked about the first shipload of wheat, for some 20 years, that went out of Esperance, finally getting market access such that our farmers in Western Australia are able to sell their main grain here, which is wheat—that is our grain in agriculture in Western Australia—and hence farmers can get the fruits of that.

Last week I was able to attend the loading of a shipment out of Kwinana, which is the first of three shipments of 165 000 tonnes worth some \$35 million to \$40 million, again, into the Saudi market. That means that what happened before was not a one-off; the work we did has meant that the farming community can now access the long-term market in a marketplace we have not had access to before. That 165 000 tonnes is the first of a number of potential options that our grain buyers and accumulators can tender for to get into the Saudi market going forward. I am really rapt with what has happened. I am really rapt with the fact that we were able to put the work in beforehand—the visit we had to Saudi Arabia and the visit they had over here—to access a market that we had not been able to access before. I think that what is happening now confirms that Saudi Arabia will indeed be a long-term market for Western Australian wheat.

I think it is also important to note the role the Liberal–National government plays in promoting Western Australian product into these destination markets. I know that the member for Collie–Preston at different times has talked about me gathering frequent flyer trips. Mr Speaker, I put to you and to this chamber the importance of Western Australia getting into these markets and making the effort to understand those markets. It is important that our research and development capacity back here ensures that they understand the specifications of our products meeting certain end-use needs, enabling Western Australian producers to now have access to a range of markets that they did not have access to before. Certainly, I have been to the Middle East, Indonesia, Singapore, China and, of course, recently to Korea and Japan. That was the first time in 15 years that a Western Australian agriculture minister has been to Korea and Japan. Again, I think that is significant. I highlight that

what happened with that first shipment in 20 years and what happened with that 165 000 tonnes going out this week has meant that those trips and the effort of the Department of Agriculture and Food in Western Australia to ensure that we can access those markets will pay off for the farming community in Western Australia.

MIDLAND HEALTH CAMPUS — PUBLIC–PRIVATE SERVICE COMPARATOR

814. Mr R.H. COOK to the Minister for Health:

Last night, at a public meeting to discuss the privatisation of the Midland health campus, the minister's colleague Hon Helen Morton said that a public–private comparator for this project had been completed.

- (1) Will the minister now table that study that he says justifies the privatisation of the hospital?
- (2) If the minister will not table the study, can he give an undertaking that he will comply with section 82 of the Financial Management Act and provide reasons to the Parliament and the Auditor General for his refusal?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

(1)–(2) I thank the member for the question. I am glad to get a question on Midland. I want to congratulate the member for the result of last night's meeting. It turned out to be an absolute fizzle—about 100 people turned up! Newspaper and radio advertisements were run exhorting everybody to come and hear from the member when it was not even his electorate! The member attended the meeting, along with Hon Helen Morton. Where were the local people who had been flogged into attending this meeting? It was packed with unionists; that was about it! Hardly anybody turned up. What a fizzle! I wonder how much money the union, holding the puppet strings of the opposition, spent on radio adverts to get this huge crowd of 100 union members along! It is a lesson for members opposite. Well done, member. What he managed to do is get fantastic publicity —

Mr R.H. Cook interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The Deputy Leader of the Opposition says more than that.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, members! Minister for Health, I am going to direct you to answer the question that has been asked by the member for Kwinana.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The question related to the public outcry against Midland —

Mr R.H. Cook: You didn't listen to the question.

Dr K.D. HAMES: It had a preamble, so presumably the preamble is part of the question.

Mr R.H. Cook: Will you table the public–private comparator?

The SPEAKER: Minister, the member for Kwinana directed the minister to answer the question. Continual interjections on the minister will not assist.

Dr K.D. HAMES: I am not allowed to talk about the 100 people. Let me talk about the public–private comparator.

Ms M.M. Quirk: Yes or no?

Dr K.D. HAMES: I will have to go back and look at *Hansard* because I thought I had addressed this issue before of the public–private comparator at Midland, but perhaps I am getting confused and it was Fiona Stanley Hospital. There has been a public–private comparator. It is not practice to make that public. The Labor Party did not do it while it was in government. I do not know whether the former government did any of those, particularly when it extended the contract for Joondalup hospital. It was a fantastic effort on the former government's part to do that. It showed that the Labor Party strongly supports public–private sector partnerships. I know one of the local members strongly supports the operations at Joondalup hospital—a model we intend to replicate in Midland. I do not know whether the former Labor government did a public–private comparator when it extended that contract, but we have done one for ours. It is not my intention to table it. That therefore requires that I follow the requirements of the act and seek authorisation to do that. It is not my intention to table it, no.

MIDLAND HEALTH CAMPUS — PUBLIC–PRIVATE SERVICE COMPARATOR

815. Mr R.H. COOK to the Minister for Health:

I have a supplementary question. The Premier promised to provide open and accountable government to the Western Australian community. Why does the government continue to flout this promise by maintaining secrecy behind these projects? Does the Minister for Health not think he has a duty to be accountable to the people of Midland on how he is spending taxpayers' money?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

I hope that the tail end of that question about being open and accountable to the people of Midland now gives me the opportunity to talk about the 100 people who turned up! I hope that gives me that opportunity. The opposition talks about how many people —

Mr A.J. Waddell: Why don't you talk about the fact you are not delivering the service that the people of Midland deserve?

The SPEAKER: Member for Forrestfield, I formally call you to order for the first time today. On that point, members, I am going to finish question time.

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER — PHOTOGRAPHER
QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE 805 — TABLING OF PAPER**

Point of Order — Rulings by Speaker

The SPEAKER: While I am on my feet, with respect to the question that you asked about the photographer, member for Rockingham, I have looked at the standing orders. I will use standing order 109 to determine the matter. We can talk about that some time after question time if the member for Rockingham likes. I will use standing order 109.

Further to the point of order raised by the member for Cannington relating to the document the Minister for Police referred to, quite simply they were handwritten notes that were provided to the minister. I have had a look at them. There is no need for them to be tabled.

Mr T.G. Stephens: He must have passed up the wrong document. That was not a handwritten note!

The SPEAKER: I could see them —

Mr T.G. Stephens: I could see them, too!

The SPEAKER: Member for Pilbara, I am on my feet. I formally call you to order for the second time today. Member for Girrawheen, I am going to call you to order for the third time today.

For those members who want further clarification, there were handwritten notes on the document. There were some top —

Mr T.G. Stephens interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Pilbara, I formally call you to order for the third time.

There were handwritten notes on the piece of paper that had typing on it, if that gives members further clarification.

RULINGS BY SPEAKER — ONLINE COMMENT

Point of Order

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: With the Speaker's indulgence, I preface my point of order by saying I ask you to —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! Some of you may have observed that I am not in the mood for much fun today. I am not in the mood for it at all. If you are going to use a point of order, member for Jandakot, tell me the point of order and I will go from there.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: I refer to reflections of an adverse nature on you, Mr Speaker. I particularly refer to an online comment that was made by the member for Willagee during the course of question time about your ruling. I also refer you, Mr Speaker, to a ruling by the Speaker of the Victorian Legislative Assembly on this particular issue only last month. He ruled it was inappropriate to make comments using online media in relation to rulings of the Speaker during question time. As I was going to say, I am happy to discuss this with you, Mr Speaker, later, and for you to take this on notice, but I ask if you could inform the house some time on what the protocol is about members —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Jandakot, I suggest you speak to me afterwards about it.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 6219, 6321, 6324, 6325, 6331, 6332, 6336, 6342–6344, 6346–6349,
6351–6353, 6430, 6433–6437, 6439, 6440–6442 AND 6445**

Answer Advice

The SPEAKER: Member for Rockingham.

MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham) [3.18 pm]: Mr Speaker —

Mr T.G. Stephens: Mr Speaker, I rise on a point of order as well, if I may —

The SPEAKER: Member for Pilbara, I have formally given the call to the member for Rockingham.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Pursuant to standing order 80(2), I have a range of questions that have not been answered.

The SPEAKER: Would you like to provide them to the house, member for Rockingham?

Mr M. McGOWAN: I would, Mr Speaker. I will read out the numbers rather than list every single minister. They are questions not answered within the month's time frame as required by standing order 80(2); namely, 6219 and 6324 to the Premier, and then, to a range of other ministers, 6321, 6325, 6331, 6332, 6336, 6342, 6343, 6344, 6346, 6347, 6348, 6349, 6351, 6352 and 6353. It is obviously approaching the end of the parliamentary year. I thought it appropriate that I get those on record and hope that I get answers from ministers as required by the standing orders. Considering a number of them were to the Premier, perhaps the Premier could respond.

DR K.D. HAMES (Dawesville — Minister for Health) [3.19 pm]: I advise the member that —

Mr M. McGowan interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: No; on behalf of myself. Question on notice 6325 is submitted and will be ready for tomorrow. I am awaiting information from the Department of Health on question on notice 6432. If I could anticipate some queries on other questions on notice from opposition members, questions on notice 6430, 6433, 6434, 6435 and 6437 are all up for submission tomorrow. Question on notice 6439 is waiting on corrections. Questions on notice 6440, 6441 and 6445 are apparently in my office awaiting signing, and 6442 is with policy.

MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys — Minister for Police) [3.20 pm]: There are a few questions on notice standing in my name either as the Minister for Police or the Minister for Emergency Services from various members opposite and can I just say that in the last month or two of sitting I get inundated with probably 100-odd questions on notice and I signed off on many of these yesterday, probably about three or four dozen, so I would hope they would be in the system by today, if not I will ensure they are in the system very quickly.

MR T.K. WALDRON (Wagin — Minister for Sport and Recreation) [3.21 pm]: I signed off on those questions to me last night. I think I have six others waiting to be signed today. I presume that they are the questions that the member for Rockingham is seeking advice on.

MR W.R. MARMION (Nedlands — Minister for Environment) [3.21 pm]: There is one question on notice to me representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, and I will chase it up with the minister.

MR C.C. PORTER (Bateman — Attorney General) [3.22 pm]: Question on notice 6347 —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, members!

Mr C.C. PORTER: I will chase up the Minister for Finance's answer to question on notice 6347.

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE 805 — TABLING OF PAPER

Point of Order

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Mr Speaker, my point of order is this: during question time, the member for Girrawheen asked for the identification of a document to see whether it was an official document. The document was being held by the Minister for Police. It was a translucent document that I could see from this side of the house. It was a printed document, and during your answer to the house, you indicated to the house, initially, that a document that you had identified was in your words simply a handwritten document, at which point I interjected, and you then cautioned me. I could see quite clearly, Mr Speaker, that the document was a translucent, typed document that had all the hallmarks of being an official document. Mr Speaker, could you please advise the house whether scribbled notes on an official document strip away from that document its status as an official document, and what is the basis upon which you would initially claim to the house that the document was simply handwritten notes when it was quite clearly self-evident to people on this side of the house that it was a typed document that looked for all intents and purposes like an official document, probably a press release?

Point of Order — Ruling by Speaker

The SPEAKER: Member for Pilbara, one, I think you —

Mr T.G. Stephens: Mr Speaker, I am listening; sorry.

The SPEAKER: Member for Pilbara, I formally call you to order for the fourth time today and I will ask you to leave this house.

Mr T.G. Stephens: Is there a tight vote coming up, Mr Speaker? I object of course.

Mr R.F. Johnson: Just go before you're called.

Mr P. Papalia: Oh, shut up.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro!

Mr T.G. Stephens: Shall I wait for your explanation?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mr T.G. Stephens: Are you going to give me an explanation before I go?

The SPEAKER: Member for Pilbara, I am going to name you.

Suspension of Member

The SPEAKER: I am going to ask you to leave this house. If you do not do so, I am going to ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort you from this house.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Yes, Mr Speaker.

[The member for Pilbara left the chamber.]

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Mr Speaker —

The SPEAKER: No. Take a seat, Leader of the House.

Members, I am going to put a question to this house under standing order 43: that the member for Pilbara be suspended from the service of the Assembly.

Question put and a division taken with the following result —

Ayes (31)

Mr P. Abetz
Mr F.A. Alban
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr I.C. Blayney
Mr J.J.M. Bowler
Mr I.M. Britza
Mr T.R. Buswell
Mr G.M. Castrilli

Mr V.A. Catania
Dr E. Constable
Mr M.J. Cowper
Mr J.H.D. Day
Mr J.M. Francis
Mr B.J. Grylls
Dr K.D. Hames
Mrs L.M. Harvey

Mr A.P. Jacob
Dr G.G. Jacobs
Mr R.F. Johnson
Mr A. Krsticevic
Mr J.E. McGrath
Mr W.R. Marmion
Mr P.T. Miles
Ms A.R. Mitchell

Dr M.D. Nahan
Mr C.C. Porter
Mr D.T. Redman
Mr M.W. Sutherland
Mr T.K. Waldron
Dr J.M. Woollard
Mr A.J. Simpson (*Teller*)

Noes (22)

Dr A.D. Buti
Ms A.S. Carles
Mr R.H. Cook
Ms J.M. Freeman
Mr J.N. Hyde
Mr W.J. Johnston

Mr J.C. Kobelke
Mr F.M. Logan
Mr M. McGowan
Mrs C.A. Martin
Mr M.P. Murray
Mr A.P. O’Gorman

Mr P. Papalia
Mr J.R. Quigley
Ms M.M. Quirk
Mr E.S. Ripper
Mrs M.H. Roberts
Mr C.J. Tallentire

Mr P.C. Tinley
Mr A.J. Waddell
Mr M.P. Whitely
Mr D.A. Templeman (*Teller*)

Question thus passed.

Point of Order — Ruling by Speaker Resumed

The SPEAKER: Members, I did provide the information to you that the member for Pilbara was seeking. Yes, indeed, it was a piece of paper with typing on it; it also had handwritten notes on it. The particular document was provided to Hansard. I retrieved it from Hansard so I could have a look at it. It in no way is a press release; it is in no way an official document. I think if any member in this place saw it, as I did, they would reach the same conclusion. It is a pity that the member for Pilbara did not stay to hear this explanation.

Opposition members: But you threw him out.

The SPEAKER: Members, if you listened, I gave him the call seeking a point of order; he asked the question. When I endeavoured to answer, he continued to interrupt. If he had simply asked the point of order, I would have provided the information that he sought; it is the information that I have just provided you with.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH LAWS — NATIONAL HARMONISATION

Petition

MR E.S. RIPPER (Belmont — Leader of the Opposition) [3.29 pm]: I have a petition couched in the following terms —

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia:

We the undersigned say: that all citizens of Western Australia believe that workers in our state deserve the best health and safety laws in Australia. Every worker must have the right to a safe workplace, and an expectation that they will return home without injury or illness. In WA, 24 workers died from work-

related injuries or illness in 2008–2009. That is not good enough. The refusal of the Barnett Government to sign onto the Model WH&S Bill will deny Western Australian workers from the same protections provided to workers in other states and territories. The workers of WA should not be treated as second class citizens, and they should not be subjected to second rate safety.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly:

To enact the Model Workplace Health and Safety Bill as endorsed by the Workplace Relations Ministerial Council in 2009

The petition bears 1 041 signatures.

[See petition 497.]

PINJARRA–MANDURAH BUS SERVICE

Petition

MR M.J. COWPER (Murray–Wellington — Parliamentary Secretary) [3.30 pm]: A petition I submit has 105 signatories and has been endorsed as conforming with the standing orders of the house. It is couched in the following terms —

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

We the undersigned say that: The Murray Shire is growing at 6.5% pa and this year alone 150 new jobs have been created in the Pinjarra Industrial Estate, a new 200 place apprentice training facility has opened, a new swimming pool will open soon in Pinjarra and Indigenous training at Fairbridge is continuing to be an outstanding success.

Additionally a new bus service will service those travelling to and from the Pinjarra Paceway and Race Club, new sub-divisions, schools, shopping centres, aged care and medical facilities.

Residents of the Murray District, who travel to Perth for work, study, medical appointments or recreation are compelled to drive their cars and when they choose to use public transport are compelled to compete for limited parking at the Mandurah Train Station.

The dual lane Pinjarra road is now WA's busiest provincial road outside of the Perth Metropolitan area and carries large volumes of traffic to and from Alcoa's Pinjarra and Wagerup Operations.

Fuel prices are now making Public Transport a necessity in the Murray District, and those outlying towns such as Dwellingup, Waroona and surrounds will be able to park and ride at Pinjarra, taking further pressure off parking at Mandurah Train Station.

Now we ask that the Legislative Assembly to support our campaign for the Government to provide a regular bus service between Pinjarra and Mandurah.

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

[See petition 498.]

DIAGNOSTIC MAMMOGRAMS — MANDURAH

Petition

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [3.32 pm]: I wish to table a petition couched in the following terms —

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PARLIAMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

We the undersigned, say

That it is totally unacceptable that local women do not have immediate access to diagnostic mammograms in Mandurah and instead have to travel to Rockingham, the metro area or to Bunbury to access such an essential service.

We believe that given our rapid population growth and the demographics of our region such a service must be available locally.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly ensure the Western Australian Health Minister Dr Kim Hames takes immediate action to ensure such a service is again made available to local women in Mandurah.

It is signed by 19 signatories and is part of an extensive petition, and complies with the chamber's standing orders.

[See petition 499.]

DOG AND CAT FUR PRODUCTS — BAN

Petition

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [3.33 pm]: I have a petition regarding the sale of fur products from dogs and cats. It reads —

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

We, the undersigned, call on the Western Australian Government to use the Department of Commerce's inspection powers to assist the Federal Government police its ban on the importation of fur from dogs and cats. The State Government must inspect and expose clothing retailers and other businesses involved in the sale of items containing dog and cat fur. When dog and cat fur is found the Department should provide evidence to the Federal Government so that tough penalties are imposed on the retailer, importer and others involved in the supply chain of this cruel and bloody trade.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to urge the State Government to act immediately to protect consumers from fur products that have been gathered through horrific practices like the skinning of live animals.

The petition has been certified as conforming to the standing orders of the house and it contains 232 signatures.

[See petition 500.]

RESOURCES PROJECTS — LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Petition

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [3.34 pm]: I have a further petition that relates to local jobs, which reads —

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

We, the undersigned, say the WA Parliament should pass laws that ensure a greater share of skilled engineering and fabrication work for our major resources projects is performed in Western Australia.

Our major resources projects are increasingly sending their skilled work offshore. Many of Western Australia's fabrication workshops are almost empty and our engineers have to go overseas if they want to help design our LNG projects.

Our natural resources can only be used once and we should use the current resources construction boom to provide training and apprenticeships for our young people, so that they can have a future after the boom.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to work to ensure a greater share of skilled work for our major resources projects is performed in Western Australia.

The petition has been signed by 44 people and it has been certified as conforming to the standing orders of the house. I table the petition.

[See petition 501.]

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

Petition

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [3.35 pm]: I have a further petition. It relates to a disability insurance scheme, and it reads —

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

We, the undersigned, welcome the final report of the Productivity Commission into disability care and support and the Prime Minister's commitment for a national disability insurance scheme and urge the Premier to seize this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for a national disability insurance scheme.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to call on the Premier to listen to the requests from Western Australian people with disabilities and immediately establish a community reference group to advise him on how a national disability insurance scheme may work best for WA.

The petition has been certified as conforming to the standing orders of the house. It contains 32 signatures.

[See petition 502.]

COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES*Petition*

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [3.36 pm]: I have a further petition, which reads —

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

We, the undersigned, say

- 1 The State Government's recent increases in fees and charges to householders are disproportionate and unfair.
- 2 Many people are struggling to get by and these increased charges are causing unnecessary hardship.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly

- 3 To voice the case of householders aggrieved by these increases in fees and charges.
- 4 To give relief for WA householders trying to balance the household budget.

The petition has been certified as conforming to the standing orders of the house and it contains 22 signatures.

[See petition 503.]

CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME*Petition*

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [3.37 pm]: I have a final petition to table, and it relates to the container deposit scheme. It reads —

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PARLIAMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

We, the undersigned, say

It is time to address the number of beverage containers recycled in Western Australia and assist in improving the ongoing litter problem we have in our state. Discussion about the introduction of such a scheme for Western Australia has been ongoing for too long and it is now time the Government took action.

Now we ask that the Legislative Assembly call upon the Barnett Government to immediately introduce a Western Australian Container Deposit Scheme, similar to the system that operates in South Australia.

The petition has been certified as conforming to the standing orders of the house and contains 21 signatures.

[See paper 504.]

The SPEAKER: Five petitions tabled, member.

BIDI BIDI CENTRE*Petition*

MR V.A. CATANIA (North West) [3.38 pm]: I have a petition couched in the following terms, of which 150 petitioners have signed —

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

We, the undersigned, say that the Aboriginal community of the Mt Magnet region is deserving of a facility such as Bidi Bidi to continue its important work by providing our children 0–4 years and their families with an Aboriginal environment that fosters healthy development. Bidi Bidi also provides support to parents so that they provide a positive home environment for learning, good health and nutrition that fits in with our culture. Since 2002 the community have worked towards this service and it was funded for only two years in 2010. The Centre will close in early December 2011 unless urgent action is taken.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to provide immediate funds before the 1 December 2012 for the ongoing operation and expansion of the Bidi Bidi Centre to ensure the future wellbeing of our children.

[See petition 505.]

OSBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL — SCHOOL SPEED ZONE*Petition*

MR J.C. KOBELKE (Balcatta) [3.39 pm]: I have a petition that conforms with the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly and contains 71 signatures. It states —

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

We, the undersigned are most concerned that too many vehicles fail to adhere to the 40kph speed limit in the School Speed Zone adjacent to Osborne Primary School.

We fear for the safety of students along with their parents and other people who need to cross Hutton Street in Osborne Park on their way to and from school.

We request the prompt installation of Flashing Electronic Speed Signs to improve driver awareness of the requirement to adhere to the 40kph speed limit during the designated times.

[See petition 506.]

PAPERS TABLED

Papers were tabled and ordered to lie upon the table of the house.

BILLS*Notice of Motion to Introduce*

1. Reserves (Wanjarri Nature Reserve) Bill 2011.
Notice of motion given by **Mr B.J. Grylls (Minister for Lands)**.
2. Criminal Organisations Control Bill 2011.
Notice of motion given by **Mr C.C. Porter (Attorney General)**.
3. Human Tissue and Transplant Amendment Bill 2011.
Notice of motion given by **Mr M.P. Whitely**.
4. No Privatisation of Midland Health Campus Bill 2011.
Notice of motion given by **Mr R.H. Cook (Deputy Leader of the Opposition)**.

CONTAINER DEPOSIT AND RECOVERY SCHEME BILL 2011*As to Appropriations — Notice of Motion*

Mr E.S. Ripper (Leader of the Opposition) gave notice that at the next sitting of the house he would move —

That this house calls on the Premier to seek a message from the Governor recommending that appropriations be made for the Container Deposit and Recovery Scheme Bill 2011 and that the government endorses the bill.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE HERITAGE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA ACT 1990*Removal of Order — Statement by Speaker*

THE SPEAKER (Mr G.A. Woodhams): In accordance with standing order 144A, the order of the day that appeared in the last notice paper as number 1 under private members' business, the referral of the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990 to a select committee, has not been debated for more than 12 calendar months and has been removed from the notice paper.

LAW AND ORDER — VIOLENT CRIME, BURGLARY AND ROBBERY*Matter of Public Interest*

THE SPEAKER (Mr G.A. Woodhams): Members, today I received within the prescribed time a letter from the Leader of the Opposition in the following terms —

I wish to raise the following as a matter of public interest today.

“That the House —

Condemns the Barnett Government for its law and order failures especially in the areas of violent crime, burglary and robbery.”

If sufficient members agree to this motion, I will allow it.

[At least five members rose in their places.]

The SPEAKER: The matter can proceed.

MR E.S. RIPPER (Belmont — Leader of the Opposition) [3.44 pm]: I move —

That the house condemns the Barnett government for its law and order failures, especially in the areas of violent crime, burglary and robbery.

In the early years of any government, the government tends to be judged by its announcements. What we had from this government was a series of tough law and order media announcements. Those announcements were combined with completely fallacious vilification of Labor's record on crime. During WA Labor's period in government, there was a significant reduction in crime that worried the community, such as motor vehicle theft and home burglary. Now that the government has been in power for more than three years, the government will be judged not so much on its latest announcements as on whether the government is delivering on previous announcements and on what the outcomes for the community are. I know that the government will play with the overall figures, but playing with the overall figures does not help a community concerned about, for example, appalling attacks on seniors. There have been a huge number of these appalling attacks on seniors.

Let us think about, for example, the case of Sidney Brady, 89. He is described in *The Sunday Times* as a "gentle grandfather who spent his days playing violin in his retirement village home". He suffered serious injury when he was repeatedly beaten over the head with a weapon believed to be a dumbbell during a home invasion. The report in *The Sunday Times* had the following statement—

Police described it as one of the most sickening and sinister attacks they had seen.

Mr Brady was house-sitting at his daughter's Grand Promenade duplex when at least three men smashed their way into the home, ripping the front door from its hinges ...

That is the type of attack and the type of appalling brutality that our community is particularly concerned about. That article in *The Sunday Times* listed in a sidebar some of the other attacks that have occurred: Bee Chan Mong, 68, and her husband, Kah Lok Hor, 73, were bashed by three men who raided their Maylands home; Mario Pesce, 74, and his 70-year-old wife, Tina, were brutally bashed in their Wanneroo Road home; and disabled pensioner Kelvin McCagh feared for his life after being assaulted and robbed during his morning walk in Armadale. Those are just some of the examples that seriously concern our community.

Then we go to the terrible situation on our trains, particularly on the train that runs out through the south eastern corridor and eventually reaches Armadale. There was the brutal assault at Beckenham on transit guards. There was the appalling situation at the Burswood station. What was the initial response of the Minister for Transport? Remarkably, the minister canvassed the idea of closing down the train line, taking away the service from all those law-abiding citizens and surrendering to the activity of criminals. It was a pathetic initial reaction from the Minister for Transport, because it was a pathetic surrender of the state's authority to the activities of criminals.

We saw another remarkable reaction from a government agency to the security problems on the south eastern train line. A mother whose eight-year-old child was riding home from school on the train was dobbed into the child protection authorities, and the child protection authorities counselled her because they were not confident about the security on the train line. What an appalling thing that a woman has an encounter with Child Protection because the government cannot deliver security on the train line sufficient to satisfy the child protection authorities.

In our discussions on these issues, we often talk about the problems confronting seniors, but think about the situation of young people. Entertainment areas are not safe. There are far too many bashings outside licensed establishments. Inside licensed establishments, there are far too many appalling examples of glassings. When these young people go home, there is no security on the trains. If they take a taxi instead, the taxis have become a very, very dodgy proposition, particularly for young women going home on their own. So this issue certainly affects elderly people, but it is also a very big issue for our young people, and it is being driven in part by amphetamine use that is out of control. More than 150 drug laboratories have been discovered this year. This is a serious issue, and surely the government itself must be starting to feel that the whole issue of clan labs is out of control.

What we are feeling now is the effect of broken promises by the government on law and order. What we are feeling now is the exhaustion of the tough-on-crime rhetoric. What we are feeling now is the end of the sustainability of the government's approach to law and order. Let us have a look at one of those broken promises: the promise for 500 extra police substituted with 350 extra police and 150 auxiliary officers. Let us have a look at the promise to increase the number of police in the public transport division. The number of police in the public transport division was actually cut from 96 to 88. Today we had the Premier out there calling for an increased number of police in the public transport division. What a laugh! The Premier called for his broken promise to now be unbroken; he called on his own government to unbreak the promise that his own government had broken. The Premier is in government now. He cannot behave as he did when he was opposition leader. He

cannot make the call; he either does or he does not. Then the Minister for Police came in here at question time and, in the face of that four-year promise for increased police in the public transport division, he announced a four-week operation. A four-week operation is not the delivery of a four-year promise. Again, I do not think that that is the initiative of the Minister for Police; I think that is an operational decision by the Commissioner of Police—once again, the only person in the arena on the government side who appears to be displaying leadership on law and order issues. I support Operation Rail Safe—let me make it clear; I support Operation Rail Safe—but it is not the delivery of the promise that the government made, and it is a four-week operation, not a four-year operation.

We have a government committed to press conferences and committed to announcements but which does everything it can to avoid accountability for delivery. We have had a raft of law and order announcements in the last little while. It has become a routine. The government delivers a drop to *The Sunday Times*, with no detail, and expects the debate to occur without anyone being able to see the detail. Then there is no urgency about bringing the matters on for debate. The Parliament is going to get up in two weeks. If these things are so urgent, have the Parliament sit a few more weeks and deal with them. But, no, the government would much rather have those things sitting there, debate them next year, make a few more announcements and have a few more press conferences, and get them in so late in the parliamentary term that there will never be an opportunity to judge the government on its delivery, to hold it accountable for the implementation, and to match its words against the outcomes. So we have a government that is committed to press conferences but is not committed to, not effective in and not smart in actually tackling the crime that people are worried about. The Minister for Police, the Attorney General and the Premier will be held accountable by the community for having talked tough on crime and then three years later being found absolutely wanting as out-of-control violence engulfs our entertainment areas and our transport system.

MR J.R. QUIGLEY (Mindarie) [3.54 pm]: Just picking up on that thread of the honourable Leader of the Opposition that the government makes press announcements and then avoids accountability, there can be no greater example of that than the prostitution reform bill. The government came in and promised that it would get mini-brothels and prostitution out of the suburbs. It introduced a bill, and then made an exception for any brothel existing during the term of government, so that we know that by the end of the term of government, zero will have happened. There is an 18-month exemption. For anyone who is already a criminal in breach of section 190 of the Criminal Code, that will continue. And it is to be remembered that it was the honourable police minister who, when sitting on this side of the chamber, three years ago, said, “If I ever became the police minister, I would order the commissioner to enforce the law.” What hollow words! He has done no such thing. He has sat by and watched his Attorney General introduce a law and say, “We will go about prostitution reform in this way, but we won’t bring it into effect until after this term of government and into the next Parliament when we won’t have to be held accountable.”

It has been said that there are lies, lies and then damned statistics, so that on top of these press releases, in which the government talks it up and talks hard, it introduces statistics to try to blind the public. We can forget all those charts that the Attorney General comes in here and flashes around every question time. We have only to take a snapshot from the Western Australia Police site to realise that if we compare August 2010 with August 2011, murder is up by 50 per cent; domestic assaults are up by nearly 35 per cent; robbery on businesses is up by 33 per cent; and robbery on non-businesses is up by 30 offences. This is an absolute con. Government members come into this place and hold up these charts. The chart in my hand shows that the rate of imprisonment is going up and the number of offences is falling, but they are starting to climb and coincide again, because the criminals cannot be kept inside forever. Under the policy of refusing parole, of course there will be an initial dip in offending, but after three or four years when these criminals have served their finite terms, they will be released back into the community, and now we can see what is happening. There is a rise in crime across those violent offences—those offences that are committed by recidivist criminals who have been hardened in jail. The figures for homicides, bigger domestic assaults and robberies on businesses are all climbing, and climbing across the five-year average. Domestic assaults across the five-year average have risen by 11.5 per cent; business robberies have risen by 86 per cent. It is just scandalous.

The only way to get on top of crime is to have more police on the streets to catch more criminals. That is the only answer—not to get down in the fern garden on Wednesday or in the backyard on Saturday or Sunday afternoon and say, “We’re going to be tough.” The only way is to put more police on the streets—not auxiliary police, but more proper police on the streets who can effectively police and lock up criminals. Let us look at the chart in my hand. We have the line of imprisonment and we have the line of offences. What is missing from this chart is the Armadale line. That is the line the government wants to wipe out because too many offences are being committed on the Armadale train line. Why? It is because, in its election promises, the government promised to put more police on trains and failed to do so, and now the Armadale line has become very dangerous because of the government’s delinquency in its election commitments—its absolute delinquency to commitment—by failing to put those police on the Armadale line. The government’s response was, “Well, let’s

close the line.” The Premier has had to grab the Minister for Transport by the ear and say, “Doing that, Gunga Din, absolutely proves the case against us. So, we’ve got to come up with some other scheme. Let’s police the line for four weeks.” What a disgrace.

MS M.M. QUIRK (Girrawheen) [4.00 pm]: A few weeks ago I attended a meeting in Fremantle. It was a meeting of a group called Justice First. I was the only member of Parliament present. Most of those present had a personal experience with crime and either they or their loved ones were victims of crime. Among them was the courageous Ellen Rowe, whose husband died after a vicious assault on a beach in Geraldton amidst family Christmas celebrations. At this meeting Mrs Rowe recounted how she had become a victim of a system in which those most closely affected by crime are marginalised and ignored. In her case she heard from a report in the media that the charges against her husband’s assailant were to be downgraded.

The son of James Richardson, the convenor of the group, was killed in another senseless act of violence. James had to battle with prosecutors to ensure that a backup charge was laid. It was put on the indictment at the eleventh hour and the offender was ultimately convicted of that charge. Therefore, but for James’ persistence, that offender would have been acquitted. After being cast aside in the whole prosecution process, James recounts that he was contacted when the offender was nearing the end of his very short sentence and asked whether he would be prepared to assist in the offender’s rehabilitation process.

Others at the meeting also recounted their ongoing victimisation through the justice system, including one case in which a victim of serious assault had difficulty in accessing funds already awarded as criminal injuries compensation to enable major dental work to be undertaken to fix substantial damage caused by the assault. Consistent themes of this meeting were frustration with Director of Public Prosecutions’ officers; charge bargaining; lack of communication from police and prosecutors; being kept in the dark; the court process often appearing uncaring about the impact on victims; and the ongoing struggle with post-traumatic stress. When government members get up in this place and arrogantly boast about how well the government is dealing with crime, it demonstrates that the government just does not get it. There is a dissonance between the way in which the government asserts our criminal justice system operates and what occurs in reality. For every criminal statistic there is a story of a victim; thankfully not all those stories are as stark as Ellen’s and James’ stories.

The complacency and conceit of the Barnett government provides those affected by violence with little comfort or reassurance. One such group of victims are those caught up in business robberies. Every morning when we turn on our radios and listen to the news, we hear about another robbery that has occurred overnight. Figures prepared by police and obtained under freedom of information legislation show that the five-year financial year to date figures for business robbery has increased by 86 per cent. As we have heard, between July 2010 and 2011 it increased by more than 100 per cent. There was a 33 per cent increase between August 2010 and August 2011 and a 100 per cent increase between September 2010 and September 2011. When these robberies occur, there is a tendency to think that as they are businesses they are insured and there will be no long-term harm; however, nothing can be further from the truth. Small businesses are already doing it hard. There has been a loss of consumer confidence and massive increases in utility costs.

Australian Institute of Criminology research has identified a number of likely outcomes for businesses that are victim to robberies. Businesses that have been robbed put in place a range of measures as a consequence of experiencing this crime. One in 20 businesses increased prices to compensate for losses; borrowed money to finance the purchase of security measures; and introduced staff training. One in 25 businesses borrowed money to keep the business afloat; paid for employee counselling; and changed their hours of operation. We should also consider the psychological impact to not only business owners but also their staff. More than half of businesses reported that their staff felt fearful after the event; one-third reported nightmares and flashbacks. Major psychological and financial problems are experienced as the result of business robberies. This is just one aspect of the way in which the government fails to handle crime in our streets and suburbs.

There clearly needs to be a police presence on our streets. Increasing the prospect of being apprehended is the best deterrent. The government has broken its election promise of supplying an additional 500 police officers. It is short-changing the people of Western Australia by recruiting only 350 police officers. It is lying to the WA public when it says that downgrading the remaining 150 to auxiliary officers will not make an operational difference. If we want evidence of the effectiveness of a strong police presence, we need to look no further than the fact that the strong police presence at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting led to a reduction in crime. Overall, there was an 8.4 per cent decrease in crime. Although I congratulate Western Australia Police for its efforts at CHOGM above and beyond the call of duty, perhaps WA deserves the same attention as the 53 foreign heads of state. The Commissioner of Police yesterday conceded before a Legislative Council committee that similar results could be achieved across the board with an escalation in resources.

In conclusion, I want to take members on a trip down memory lane —

We are seeing violent attacks inside and outside nightclubs and pubs; violent random attacks, particularly at night; and we are now seeing violent attacks against innocent people in broad daylight. In the latest incident,

young children and babies were involved. This is happening on the Minister for Police's watch. I know what he will say: "It's not me; it's nothing to do with me. You're getting all the figures wrong and everything's wrong." It has reached the situation now that people are afraid to walk the streets. I would not let my kids go into Northbridge at night-time. I advise them not to go to any hot spot, even those in my electorate, at night-time. People who go to Sorrento Quay and Hillarys marina late on Friday and Saturday nights could be attacked. People are being bashed senseless and are dying because of the violent attacks against them, and this state government is doing absolutely nothing.

That was a statement by the current Minister for Police, the member for Hillarys, in September 2007. I pose the obvious question: how is it that when in opposition the member for Hillarys asserted that the Minister for Police bears some responsibility for the failure to do anything about violent crime, but now when he is in government and holds the police portfolio, he not only accepts no responsibility, but denies that it is even happening?

MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys — Minister for Police) [4.08 pm]: What absolute hypocrisy we hear today! I could not believe it when I saw the matter of public interest and the motion that it contained. The motion reads, in part —

... condemns the Barnett government for its law and orders failures, especially in the areas of violent crime, burglary and robbery.

I thought, "That is absolute hypocrisy." Let me tell the member for Girrawheen that the number of crimes reported in 2010–11, although higher than for 2009–10—there was a blip and I accept that—still remains lower than the number reported in the last year of the Labor government.

Ms M.M. Quirk: But it is going up.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: It is lower than the last year of Labor. In 2010–11, a total of 184 583 offences were reported, including burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson and property damage. If we compare this to Labor's last year in government, 2007–08, we see that under Labor a total of 210 152 offences were reported. This amounts to a more than 12 per cent drop in offences during our term in government. Quite frankly, that is more than 25 500 fewer victims of crime under the Liberal–National government. When I say "hypocrisy", I mean "hypocrisy". The member for Girrawheen is very good at digging out old press releases and comments from *Hansard* in Parliament. I have to say; I am not too bad myself. I have been going through some of the information that came out during Labor's years. In August 2007 *The West Australian* carried the headline "State hit over rise in violent crime". That occurred during the Labor years—2007. The article reads —

Police statistics revealing a 111 per cent jump in aggravated sexual assaults and nearly 50 per cent increase in violent bashings were seized on by Opposition Leader Paul Omodei —

As he was at the time. It says further on —

The monthly statistics show reports of aggravated assaults have risen from 4252 when Labor came into power in 2000–01 to 6323 last financial year, while reports of aggravated sexual assaults increased from 1380 to 2911.

That shows members what happened under the then Labor government in 2007. The article contains a lovely little graph—not written by me or the Attorney General; it is one of *The West Australian's*, and I have to say that it is very good. It is headed, "Out of Control".

Mr M.P. Murray interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: That was while the member for Collie–Preston was in government.

Mr M.P. Murray: You're in trouble.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The member for Collie–Preston is in trouble. Let me tell him why. People will see this; they will remember what it was like under his government, when he was soft on crime and soft on drugs. They know exactly what he was like and that is why they do not trust him or believe him.

Let me read another article from *The West Australian* in September 2007, which is headed "Police crime figures contradict Minister"—not this minister, the former Minister for Police. It also states —

The Carpenter Government's record on law and order has slumped to a new low after official police figures revealed crime was on the rise in WA and every police officer was now responsible for 57 more people than when Labor came to power in 2001.

It says further on —

The decline in police numbers per person was reflected in an across-the-board rise in crime, including a 30 per cent surge in aggravated burglaries (1535) and an increase in reported sexual assaults, assaults, threatening behaviour and deprivation of liberty.

It states further on again —

But despite the official police data appearing to confirm the Government is losing its fight to reduce crime, Police Minister John Kobelke again chose to focus on a more favourable five-year snapshot provided in an Office of Crime Prevention report tabled in Parliament last week.

Of course, the Office of Crime Prevention was contained within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet under former Premier Carpenter. I prefer the police statistics, quite frankly, to anything the then Premier might have come out with. Let me read another headline from *The West Australian* of August 2006 written by Luke Eliot, “Knife crime rises with macho culture”. Again, that occurred under the Labor government. We saw an increase in not only bashings, burglary and theft but also knife crimes. It reads —

Crimes involving knives jumped almost 40 per cent between the 2004–05 and 2005–06 financial years—a sharp spike blamed on a macho culture plaguing Perth streets and popular entertainment precincts.

It goes on to say —

Police statistics showed aggravated assaults involving knives rose more than 40 per cent and threats involving knives more than 50 per cent.

This article is referring to crime in entertainment areas.

Mr M.P. Murray interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Members opposite refused to back the government’s legislation to allow police to carry out a stop-and-search policy when people were suspected of carrying knives in entertainment areas. The people in Perth have the member for Collie–Preston and all his colleagues on that side of the house to thank for the fact that more people carry knives today than have ever done. He refused to support stop-and-search laws, which would have caught those people.

The following was a great headline when the member for Collie–Preston was in government in 2006. I am going backwards here. It reads, “WA now bash, burglary capital of Australia”. That is the reputation the member for Collie–Preston’s government gave to WA nationwide. We were called the bash, burglary capital of Australia. They were the figures that were relevant at the time throughout all the states —

Mr M.P. Murray: Now we are the crack centre of Australia.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No, we are not. We deal with this. The member for Collie–Preston should ask members of the public who they trust when it comes to law and order. I will tell him what, his government comes very second rate; he comes right down the totem pole.

Mr A.J. Waddell: Is that what your polling shows?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: They do not trust members opposite on law and order at all.

Mr A.J. Waddell: Is that why you’re beating up everything?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No; we do not have to beat up anything, my friend. We know that the member for Forrestfield knows that the public is saying that his party is a spent force. When it comes to law and order, the public have no confidence in him whatsoever.

Let us just read one or two other articles. Another headline reads “Violence soars in Perth nightspots”. That is not this week, not this year and not last year. When was it? Oh, it was in March 2008. Who was in government then? Those people opposite were in government then.

Mr M.P. Murray: Have you fixed it?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Yes; we have certainly curbed it, my friend, more than the member for Collie–Preston ever did. The article under that headline reads —

Perth’s main entertainment hubs are far more dangerous than five years ago, with fresh figures revealing huge increases in the number of assaults in Northbridge, Burswood and the city.

The statistics, compiled for *The West Australian* by WA Police, contradict frequent claims by the State Government that violence is not growing in the city’s nightlife areas.

Northbridge had a whopping 66 per cent increase in reported non-domestic assaults from 2003 to the end of last year, while Burswood (249 per cent) and the CBD (23 per cent) also had big rises.

That was not a quote from me; that was an article written by Ronan O’Connell of *The West Australian*.

Several members interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: He is a very highly esteemed journalist with *The West Australian*. They were his comments, not mine. That is what he said in March 2008.

An opposition member: *The West Australian* was a mouthpiece for the Liberal Party.

Mr E.S. Ripper: They were very impartial!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I think Ronan O'Connell is quite a good friend of the member for Girrawheen. That is fine but that is what he said. That was his report in 2008. He got that right.

Mr J.R. Quigley interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: It was about the member for Mindarie.

I will read one more article, which I think is relevant. It was written back in 2006.

Mr J.R. Quigley: In 1953!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: This was back in April 2006; the member for Mindarie hates it when the truth comes home to roost. The headline reads, "Violence against nurses an epidemic". That was under the member for Mindarie's government, when the then Attorney General, Hon Jim McGinty, was also the Minister for Health. These offences were all happening while members opposite were on watch. Quite frankly, I will repeat one more time: they should do a survey and talk to people even in their electorates, which are predominantly Labor electorates. I talk to people in their electorates. I have to tell them that they do not trust them when it comes to law and order.

Mr M. McGowan: You closed the police station in Rockingham. You opened it and now you have closed it.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: We never opened one in the member for Rockingham's electorate.

Mr M. McGowan: Of course you did.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: When?

Mr M. McGowan: The Rockingham transit station and the Rockingham Police Station. You opened it and now you have closed it.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No, no; we have not closed it.

Mr M. McGowan: Oh. It doesn't have any staff.

Mr E.S. Ripper: You just do not staff it.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: That is another furphy. The member for Rockingham's government wanted to see all those officers along the Mandurah line. We found that there was very little crime on the Mandurah line, but there were all those allocated officers. Crime is rife on the Armadale line —

Mr M. McGowan interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: We have not closed the station; it will be used for police purposes.

Mr M. McGowan: It's not going to be used for anything.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Yes, it is.

Mr M. McGowan: What?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I will tell the member in the fullness of time.

Mr M. McGowan: In about five years' time you'll put some boxes in there.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No, no, no. I will tell him. We made sure those officers moved from there into the city where they can respond much quicker to violent crime on the Armadale and Midland lines and anywhere else.

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Members opposite are very lucky. The people on the member for Mandurah's line do not suffer from the violence and criminal activity that occurs on the Armadale line.

Mr D.A. Templeman: You are going to take them away from the Mandurah line; that's what you're doing.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No, no; we are not. They will be there as quick as a flash. By being based in the city, they can go anywhere very quickly as a rapid response team to deal with crime. That is what this government does.

Mr M. McGowan: It'll be devastating in my electorate.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I know; I know.

That is what this government does; we actually deal with the issue. We get to grips with it and that is why the people in WA trust us when it comes to law and order. They trust us when we make a promise —

Mr E.S. Ripper: They have great confidence in you, don't they?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Yes, they do. They do not have much confidence in you, my friend.

Do members remember Sandie Shaw? She sang *Puppet on a String*. The opposition's upper house colleague Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich really was being the puppet yesterday for the member for Girrawheen. The member for Girrawheen was sending messages with her iPad to get Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to ask questions. The trouble is that they were lost in translation, so the committee member did not ask the right questions and she did not know what page she was looking at. Quite frankly, I have to say that, apart from the nonsense of it all, I think it is an abuse of parliamentary procedure when a member in this house tries to use a member in the other house to dictate what is going on.

Several members interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The member was using her electronic iPad to get the member —

Several members interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Exactly! The committee member did not understand the question so she could not ask the question properly. I think it is an abuse that that member should go to a parliamentary committee hearing and try to dictate to another member of Parliament on the parliamentary committee and influence that parliamentary committee in some way as to what it should be asking the Commissioner of Police and other senior officers.

Several members interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: That is the trouble; members opposite have no standards in the Labor Party! We have seen that over many, many years—no standards whatsoever. I think the public realises that and it will certainly realise that coming up to the next election.

MR M.P. MURRAY (Collie–Preston) [4.21 pm]: I rise to put a country spin on the issue of crime and crime prevention. I was surprised to hear at the upper house Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations hearing this week that only \$253 000 has been put across from the Department of Agriculture and Food to the police to help with rural crime, especially stock theft. That very appalling amount of money is causing problems out there that are running into millions and millions of dollars.

Last week when I put out a press release on this issue, I got calls from people north of Meekatharra, south to Albany and even close to me at Darkan. I will use the call from Darkan as an example. These people have been absolutely picked over by the people who have been pinching their sheep. Since 2008, they have lost 1 091 sheep. I am sure that the Premier would very quickly work that out in dollars and understand that cost. The problem is that we had a stock squad, but now we do not. We have private citizens going about their business trying to do the job of a policeman. They are not able to do that. When people report stock theft to the police, they are told that there is only one constable, Ms Emma Needs, in this state to deal with stock theft—the minister is starting to walk out but he needs to listen to this. What a disgrace this has been! What a real, real rub in the face of country people who thought this government would look after them, especially with royalties for regions. People are just stealing stock left, right and centre. The people in Darkan who lost 1 091 sheep reported the theft and were told that they would have to come back in three weeks because the police officer was on holiday. Over time the evidence is lost, life goes on and they were told, "Forget about that now; I don't think we can chase it up." That is an absolute blight on the system at the moment—it really is. These people are beside themselves, having lost hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of sheep. If the McDonald's or the local bank had been knocked off, police would be swarming all over the place. But what happens in rural areas? Nothing! They are told, "Go back; I think they must've got lost in the bush. Someone's cut the fences and let them out." That is just not good enough for country areas. The issue of stock theft is huge and still goes on. It really grieves me to think that these people—I have the report numbers here with me; they spoke to a Sergeant Mick Williams—were fobbed off and told, "Look, we don't think we can help you. I think it's your imagination; you haven't really lost those sheep." Farmers out there know the difference down to one or two sheep. Again, I am sure the Premier can count his 100—he would know that. He would count them on weekends —

Mr C.J. Barnett: I know them by name!

Mr M.P. MURRAY: Exactly right, and when a lamb was missing, the Premier would be looking for it.

Why are these people being treated this way? Why do we not have proper police on this job, rather than just inspectors with only a public servant's ability to chase up the sheep?

Given the shortness of time, I will be quick. The other thing is a lack of planning in the Capel area for population growth of around 5 000 people. They have been asking for a new police station, but not one is being planned for the future—not one—yet the area has huge growth. The district believes that 30 minutes is an appropriate response time. Hoons can get out there, rev their cars up and down the street and do what they like knowing that they have a 30-minute start. That is not good enough.

There are not enough police officers in the country. Regional centres are okay, but the outskirts miss out. Come on! We need the extra police that were promised on the ground. They are not there, we are not getting the policing we want and that is probably the biggest issue in my electorate.

MR C.C. PORTER (Bateman — Attorney General) [4.25 pm]: I thank members for their contributions. We hear some unusual things in the law and order debate. I thought I might commence today by talking about one of the more unusual things I have read. It was in the *Melville City Herald*, which I pick up at my local takeaway place every now and then. It is from the Saturday, 29 October edition, so it was, in effect, published after the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting had pretty much completed its main functions and duties. The paper unfortunately made comments about the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Special Powers) Act, and, indeed, predicted the sorts of things we would see in the streets of Western Australia pursuant to the CHOGM legislation, and then it was published the day after CHOGM finished. Therefore, its predictions were published the day after CHOGM finished. It stated that there was “something inherently rotten to the core” about the legislation. It stated —

... We are all familiar with these sorts of powers: We see them in historical footage and movies about Soviet Russia, East Germany and other similarly seedy regimes.

People taken to rooms in the dead of night, ordered not to tell anyone about their interrogation. Citizens herded through checkpoints, forced to hand over identity papers in order to ride a train or a bus.

People stopped by agents of the State and interrogated about their movements, what they’re doing and why.

Unfortunately, as predictive analysis goes, it did not even have the good sense to remain a prediction; it predicted it after it had all finished! Of course, none of those things actually happened. I am sure that a few citizens of the state were checked for tickets when riding a train or bus, but none of that sort of stuff happened. It went on to state —

Up to 50 WA citizens—our friends, family members and neighbours—have been forbidden from entering their own city during CHOGM, —

Mr M.P. Whitely: That’s true.

Mr C.C. PORTER: Three blocks of it. It continued —

told they pose a “serious threat to persons or property”. The hollow nature of this “threat” is demonstrated by the fact one of those issued a letter was Sean Gransch, a forest protestor with no history of violence.

Obviously, all those predictions of doom and gloom and the Stasi taking people from their beds in the middle of the night during CHOGM did not actually happen. It is indicative of some of the odd things that people say when it comes to law and order debate and legislation. This motion —

Mr M. McGowan: Who said it?

Mr C.C. PORTER: It was the editorial on the front page of the *Melville City Herald*.

Several members interjected.

Mr C.C. PORTER: That is no excuse—this is a —

Mr M. McGowan: So are you going to stop going to that takeaway now?

Mr C.C. PORTER: No. It is a great takeaway; I am just going to pick up my local version of the same august publication.

Several members interjected.

Mr C.C. PORTER: It is an organisation that could do with some graphs! I think that is fair to say.

This motion condemns the Barnett government for its law and order failures, especially in the areas of violent crime, burglary and robbery. I think that needs to be examined just a little. What actually constitutes a failure in law and order? I would have thought that the basic failure in law and order is crime rates going up rather than going down. Indeed, that was one of the things that the Minister for Police mentioned when quoting an article about a former police minister. The former police minister at the time preferred statistics that took a slightly longer snapshot over a period of three to five years, I think it was, and those statistics are generally better statistics. Under Labor, crime over the long haul of that government in eight years decreased, and that is something to be very pleased about and proud of. Under this government’s law and order policies, total rates of crime have also been decreasing at a slightly faster rate over the period we have been in government. Again, that is something to be happy about.

Mr E.S. Ripper: How does our situation and the trend here compare with other states?

Mr C.C. PORTER: That is an interesting question. We have some difficulties compared with other states, many of them to do with our Indigenous population. If we look at other states that have similar population demographics and complexions, we are broadly comparable with Queensland and the Northern Territory. Those two states have also experienced relative decreases in overall rates of crime. Victoria and Tasmania are each completely different jurisdictions again. We compare favourably with other jurisdictions, but not in all categories.

The central point is this: if this government, as the Leader of the Opposition asserts, has failed in the area of violent crime, burglary and robbery, what is the evidence of that? On the best accepted figures of those three offences—violent crime, burglary and robbery—in 2006–07 there were 13 908 assaults and in the last financial year, 2010–11, there were 13 048 assaults. That is near-on a decrease of 900 assaults over that period. In 2006–07, there were 38 137 offences of burglary—this is dwelling and non-dwelling—and in 2010–11, last year, there were 35 555 offences of burglary, which again is a very significant decrease. The other category named in the motion was robbery. In 2006–07, there were 221 robberies on businesses; in 2010–11, there were 177, which is a significant decrease. In 2006–07, there were 1 799 robberies not on businesses; in 2010–11, there were 1 618. In each of the very crime categories nominated in the opposition's motion, which is supposed to show a failure on the part of the present government, crime has decreased. That is a good thing. It decreased steadily under the previous government; it has been decreasing slightly more steadily under this government. Well done to both governments. The figures for crime decreases are lumpy and have to be measured over time.

That data has to be taken in the context that the population of WA is growing at a very healthy rate. The 2009 data is probably some of the best that we have, even though it is a little old now. There was a 3.1 per cent increase in population growth, with 1 400 people a week coming into Western Australia. We think that figure is getting closer to 2 000 people a week coming into Western Australia to live, to stay and to be employed. When there are near-on 2 000 people a week coming into this jurisdiction and we are still able to steadily decrease overall rates of crime—not rates of crime per capita, but the absolute total rates of crime—that is a very significant achievement of any government. I applaud the former Labor government for its achievements in that area. I think we are doing slightly better than it did, through a different mix of policies. Nevertheless, for any modern western democratic government in a high population growth state to decrease crime over a 10 to 15-year period is a very impressive result and one that is ultimately good for the citizens of the state that it is governing. The problem with this debate is that motions such as this, condemning the government for its law and order failures, especially in violent crime, burglary and robbery, when all of the data shows that in those three categories crime is going down, feed into the nonsensical debate that happens too often, which is designed to drive fear into the hearts of the public. Some commentators call it moral panic.

Mr P. Papalia: How ironic.

Mr C.C. PORTER: The member for Warnbro laughs, but I have read just about every statement the member has made on this issue—no doubt as he has with statements I have made. I actually think that in our public statements both of us have been relatively modest, particularly in recognition of this idea that we should not tell people that things are worse than they are.

Mr P. Papalia: I was laughing in relation to your colleague who spoke earlier.

Mr C.C. PORTER: It is very important in this debate to not tell people that things are worse than they are. If we do that and people ultimately believe that, we will get the types of policies that many people on the opposite side of the house detest. Some of those policies, I must say from my own observation, work quite well. Nevertheless, there is no merit in convincing people that things are worse than they are. That is not to say that people's objections to prevailing and existing rates of crime are unwarranted. My own observation is that, notwithstanding that over the past 10 or 15 years crime rates have been steadily decreasing, when people perceive that crime rates are worse than they have ever been, they are doing a number of things: they are not comparing data from this year with data from three, four or five years ago; they are comparing their experiences and those of their parents and relatives to experiences on a much longer time frame—20 or 30 years ago. That is the type of mental comparison that people make on the overall rates of crime.

It is also the case, most unfortunately, that the categories of crime that both sides of politics have found it hardest to make inroads into are high visibility, high-impact crimes on individuals and their families. The types of crimes that have not decreased as fast as other types of crime have been assaults, the types of low level antisocial behaviour—type offences and the types of offences that we hear people talking about having happened to their cousin's kids in Northbridge on a Saturday night. These are things that are very immediate. I add to that list invasions of personal homes. We have had some success with that type of crime, but the rates are still too high. People are doing two things. They are comparing crime rates now to a very long-run view of crime rates in 1979 and 1981. Perth, Western Australia, is a fundamentally different place than it was at that time. The fact remains that over the past 10 or 15 years on any reasonable measure crime rates have been steadily going down as an absolute figure during a time in which our population has been increasing very, very rapidly.

I will give members an example of how people's perceptions are formed immediately. We had some examples of some horrific assaults committed on elderly members of our community. Those assaults are absolutely unacceptable on any measure, and without doubt there are too many of them. It is not surprising that they garner a massive amount of media attention. Based on all that media attention, I am sure that many members of this house, as many members of the public do, might end up with a view that seniors in our community are at a very high risk of assault. That actually is not the case. Assaults on seniors are horrific and we must do absolutely everything we can to punish people who perpetrate those offences and to reduce the overall numbers. In the 2010 calendar year, in only three per cent of all reported domestic assault offences the victim was aged over 60. For all of the non-domestic assaults that were committed in 2010—these are assaults that we read about in the newspaper and see on the news—in only four per cent of the instances of a common garden variety assault was the victim aged over 60. Members might be left with the impression—I am sure that many people are—that the percentage of seniors who are the victim of all assaults is much higher than three or four per cent. It is actually low. Those figures can and should be reduced, but they are rather low. When we look at the first part of 2011, in which there have been some very high-profile incidents of attacks on seniors in our community, those figures have decreased. So the number of domestic assaults on seniors has gone down from three per cent to 2.4 per cent and the number of non-domestic assaults on seniors has gone down from four per cent to three per cent. Although it is very early days, we are having some success in that particular category of offence. I make the point that those categories of offence which have the most immediate impact on people, which create a sense of disorder, and which poison people's view of criminal justice generally, have been traditionally very difficult categories of offence to decrease.

Another thing that two successive governments have had a great deal of success with is motor vehicle theft. Back in 2001–02 there were 12 276 offences. In 2010–11 there were 7 264 offences. I can assure the member for Balcatta that there are great many more motor vehicles available on the road to thieves —

Mr J.C. Kobelke: Do you want to comment on the upward trend of the last two years?

Mr C.C. PORTER: Yes, sure. Do I want to? Well what —

Mr J.C. Kobelke: You comment on it. I don't understand why, but it is worrying.

Mr C.C. PORTER: There has been an increase from last year to this year. On this graph members will see the last four years of total reported offences, 2007–08, 2008–09, 2009–10 and then a slight increase in the 2010–11 financial year, and obviously we are yet to collect data for the 2011–12 financial year. But still the long-term trend line is going in the right direction, which is what we would expect and what we aim for. The year 2009–10 showed the lowest year of total reported offences in modern history on record in this jurisdiction. There were probably a couple of reasons for that. I would argue that some of those relate to parole and also the increase in the prison muster. That period also coincided with the largest prison population that Western Australia has ever had. I have a graph here that I think I have tabled before, so it is in the Parliament's system. The green line reflects the prison population, and as the prison population goes up, the number of offences reported in the community sharply decreases. I do not suggest that that means that there is a long-term 10 or 15-year strategy of constant increases in the prison population, but what it does show is that there is a hardcore group of offenders who commit multiple offences, and if they receive terms of imprisonment, they are not feeding into the offence cycle out in the community. We can see that one of the reasons the prison population peaked was that both through the Prisoners Review Board and the administrative policies of the government, a much firmer view was taken on parole. It became harder to be released on parole because of the particular views taken by the chair of the Prisoners Review Board, in addition to which there was incredibly heavy policing during the 18-month to two-year period people were on parole. If a person was on parole in WA and they had a parole condition not to consume alcohol, they could quite easily find themselves being breathalysed at 2.00 am at their place of residence, and if they tested positive to that breathalyser test and breached the term of their parole, they were taken back into custody. This government took the view that parole, and the very heavy policing of parole, became a very important tool to ensure people who have records of repeat offences in the categories that most affect members of the community—assaults, burglaries, aggravated burglaries, robberies, car thefts—could be very heavily scrutinised, and if a great and disproportionate deal of policing resources and manpower could be focused upon them, it could cause accelerated decreases in overall rates of reported crime in a relatively short period, which is what occurred.

DR A.D. BUTI (Armadale) [4.43 pm]: In this debate the Attorney General and the Minister for Police spoke in completely different tangents. The Attorney General talked about a trend that is going down and said that the last Labor government did a good job. The Minister for Police did not even talk about what is happening today, and we know why he did not talk about what is happening today, because it is out of control. All he talked about for his 10 whole minutes was the period of the former Labor government. People in Western Australia today are not concerned about what happened in 2005, they are concerned about what is happening now, and the trend. It is interesting that the Attorney General, in talking about statistics, picks out those that suit him. The trend for most crimes, particularly violent crimes, is that they are going the wrong way; they are heading north, not south.

Domestic assault has gone up 11.5 per cent over the last five-year period. Figures for most categories of robbery have gone up. The trend for the last year shows that domestic assaults have risen from 656 to 728. Robberies of businesses have gone up; they have nearly doubled. Robberies of non-businesses have gone up. Home burglaries have gone up. Homicide has gone up. Therefore, it is wrong to say that the trend is going down; it is not going down. The official statistics from the police department for the past five years show us that the trend is upward.

What do we have? Let us take the example of this weekend's incident on the Armadale railway line. I would prefer that we refer to it as the south east line rather than the Armadale line, because most of the crime is not actually taking place in Armadale, it is taking place further up the line. But whatever; we had a violent crime; it was a terrible crime. What was the Minister for Transport's response? "We'll close the line down; we'll close the trains. That will take away the problem." What will be the solution to home invasions? Will we take away people's homes so they cannot be invaded? That is not a solution to the problem faced by the Western Australian community today. Whatever statistics the Attorney General wants to utilise in his arguments, the official Western Australian crime statistics over a five-year period, and also for the last year—whether it is July to July, August to August or September to September—show us that the trend is upward. Therefore, this government is failing in its obligation. When the coalition came to government it said that it would ensure that people felt safe. Well, they do not feel safe, and they will not feel safe through press conferences, the imposition of harsher penalties or by bringing in laws that may appear to be harsh. What will make them safer is what the member for Mindarie suggested: more police on the beat. The Attorney General started off his contribution to the debate talking about the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting at which there was a massive police presence on the streets; the crime rate did go down. Now the point is: where is that police presence today?

Question put and a division taken with the following result —

Ayes (21)

Dr A.D. Buti	Mr F.M. Logan	Mr J.R. Quigley	Mr A.J. Waddell
Mr R.H. Cook	Mr M. McGowan	Ms M.M. Quirk	Mr M.P. Whitely
Ms J.M. Freeman	Mrs C.A. Martin	Mr E.S. Ripper	Mr D.A. Templeman (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr J.N. Hyde	Mr M.P. Murray	Mrs M.H. Roberts	
Mr W.J. Johnston	Mr A.P. O'Gorman	Mr C.J. Tallentire	
Mr J.C. Kobelke	Mr P. Papalia	Mr P.C. Tinley	

Noes (31)

Mr P. Abetz	Mr V.A. Catania	Mr A.P. Jacob	Dr M.D. Nahan
Mr F.A. Alban	Dr E. Constable	Dr G.G. Jacobs	Mr C.C. Porter
Mr C.J. Barnett	Mr M.J. Cowper	Mr R.F. Johnson	Mr D.T. Redman
Mr I.C. Blayney	Mr J.H.D. Day	Mr A. Krsticevic	Mr M.W. Sutherland
Mr J.J.M. Bowler	Mr J.M. Francis	Mr J.E. McGrath	Mr T.K. Waldron
Mr I.M. Britza	Mr B.J. Grylls	Mr W.R. Marmion	Dr J.M. Woollard
Mr T.R. Buswell	Dr K.D. Hames	Mr P.T. Miles	Mr A.J. Simpson (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr G.M. Castrilli	Mrs L.M. Harvey	Ms A.R. Mitchell	

Question thus negatived.

BILLS

Assent

Messages from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the following bills —

1. Electoral and Constitution Amendment Bill 2011.
2. Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Safety Levies Bill 2011.
3. Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Safety Levies Amendment Bill 2011.
4. Inspector of Custodial Services Amendment Bill 2011.
5. Industrial Legislation Amendment Bill 2011.
6. Agricultural Practices (Disputes) Repeal Bill 2011.
7. Cat Bill 2011.

INTEGRITY (LOBBYISTS) BILL 2011

Appropriations

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

COMMERCIAL TENANCY (RETAIL SHOPS) AGREEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL 2011

Returned

Bill returned from the Council with an amendment.

IRON ORE AGREEMENTS LEGISLATION (AMENDMENT, TERMINATION AND REPEALS) BILL 2011
IRON ORE AGREEMENTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2011

Declaration as Urgent

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe — Minister for State Development) [4.53 pm]: I move —

That, in accordance with standing order 168(2), the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 be considered urgent bills.

The reason for the urgency is several-fold. First, it is obviously late in the year and the government is very keen to get this legislation through, as are the two companies involved, BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto. The second reason is that these bills are about money coming into the state—an estimated, approximately, \$2 billion over the forward estimates. It is a decision of this government, in agreement with the companies, to progressively increase, over two steps, the fines iron ore rate from 5.625 per cent to 7.5 per cent. That has been agreed with the companies as reflected in this bill, and it was also announced as part of the 2011–12 budget. A third reason is that, from the companies' point of view, there are, if you like, some trade-offs in this, and this will allow some consolidation of leases, some simplification of approvals processes, some grants of easements and the like that will clear the way for both BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto to go to their boards and presumably commit to major iron ore expansions. Each company is looking at something like \$15 billion in investment, and these bills will clear the way for them to do so. I guess another point is that, from the point of view of both the company and the government, this legislation simplifies the administration of the agreements of the mining lease areas and the whole process of project approval. It also gets rid of some redundant legislation, so it is a cleaning-up exercise. On the grounds of timing, money coming into the state, clearing the way for future investment and the simplification, or clearing-up, of what are in some cases quite old agreements acts—for all those reasons—the government hopes the house will agree to consider these as urgent bills.

MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham) [4.55 pm]: I think the Premier provided a reasonable explanation for why these bills should be considered urgent. It is an unusual mechanism and I think it should be used only in relatively unusual circumstances, and I think these circumstances fit that bill. We do not object to the bills being considered as urgent. We like to be a constructive opposition and I think we are showing that we can be very constructive and act in the interests of the state at all times.

Question put and passed.

Cognate Debate

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe — Minister for State Development) [4.56 pm]: In accordance with standing order 169, I seek leave for the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 to be considered cognately, and for the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 to be the principal bill.

If I could very briefly explain, these bills are both primarily to do with raising the royalty rate for fines from 5.625 per cent to 7.5 per cent. That will be mirrored by changes in the Mining Act, which can be done by way of administration, but the agreements require the approval of Parliament. Originally, I was given this legislation in the form of one bill. I did not consider it appropriate in a parliamentary sense to have changes to the agreement acts for BHP in the same bill as changes to the agreement acts for Rio Tinto, so I requested that they simply be split. I think that was a proper process in respecting that the companies are not only different, but also very aggressive competitors with each other. That is, I think, a more proper way of doing it in a parliamentary sense. Nevertheless, given the issues are basically the same, it is appropriate that Parliament deal with the bills in a cognate manner.

MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham) [4.57 pm]: The Premier did come to speak to me about this.

Mr R.F. Johnson: I think a yes or no will suffice.

Mr M. McGOWAN: The Premier spoke to it.

Mr R.F. Johnson: No, he didn't.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I did. I did speak to it.

Mr M. McGOWAN: He did speak to it.

Mr C.J. Barnett: If the Acting Speaker allows a brief comment, I am happy to!

Mr M. McGOWAN: Well—yes.

The ACTING SPEAKER: I was just checking whether there should be a time limit, member for Rockingham.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Apparently I have unlimited time in order to debate this!

The Premier did come to speak to me about the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 being considered cognately. I was contacted yesterday or maybe the day before by, I think, Simon Kennedy about them being considered cognately, which I thought was good process. In light of the fact that the opposition was treated with some respect in relation to that, I was agreeable to it. I might say that I do not quite share the Premier's sensitivity to Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton having their names in the same bill. I do not quite think that there is a cold war going on between the two and that in the boardrooms of either company there will be some sort of outrage that they are both in the same piece of legislation in the Western Australian Parliament.

Mr M.P. Whitely: It's the Pepsi and Coke of the 1980s.

Mr M. McGOWAN: It is like Pepsi and Coke in the 1980s! Whilst the Premier is no doubt sensitive to these issues —

Mr C.J. Barnett: A stickler for protocol!

Mr M. McGOWAN: We are not going to object, but no doubt when those boardrooms hear that both bills were dealt with cognately, they will be outraged!

Leave granted.

Second Reading — Cognate Debate

Resumed from 10 November.

MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham) [4.59 pm]: I rise to make a contribution to the cognate debate on the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011. I indicate at the outset that the opposition will be supporting both pieces of legislation; we agree with the intent of the bills.

I want to make two points up-front. First of all, it is rather unfortunate that two members who would have made an excellent contribution to this legislation are not able to make a contribution. The member for Victoria Park and the member for Pilbara have been denied their capacity to do that. The member for Pilbara is particularly sad, because most of the mines that these bills impact are located within his electorate. It would have been a good development had he been able to contribute to the debate.

In some ways it would be appropriate, if time allowed, for the third reading of these bills to be conducted on Thursday. Maybe if the Premier can listen; I am making a serious point here. The absent members for Pilbara and Victoria Park were both on our speakers list. The member for Pilbara has a deep interest in this, because it is in his electorate. The member for Victoria Park is someone from the country who obviously has an interest in the industry, and I think everyone knows is very economically literate. Both of them would like to contribute to this debate. The member for Victoria Park is not back until tomorrow. The member for Pilbara is not back until Thursday. Considering that the opposition agrees with the legislation, it might be in the interests of proper process and fairness to at least hold off the third reading of the legislation until Thursday morning to allow the member for Pilbara to say what he might want to say on the bills, considering they concern his electorate. I am putting in a simple request to the Premier in light of our agreeableness to —

Mr C.J. Barnett: I will interject to say that we are happy to do that, but we do need to get it to the upper house on Thursday.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Yes, and we support the legislation, so we are not going to be difficult about it—not that we ever are. I am pleased to hear from the Premier that the member for Pilbara will be able to make his third reading speech on Thursday. That is a good development.

This legislation is the culmination of a considerable period of negotiation that, I think, goes back some years. I congratulate the Premier on bringing it to a conclusion. I think I heard him say once that the heavens opened up and fortune smiled, and BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto attempted a coming together in the Pilbara, which appeared to most people to be an unlikely arrangement. Out of that arrangement, the state was able to secure some additional royalty revenue and some other opportunities. That arrangement did not come to pass, yet the opportunities that accrued to the state were able to be realised, and the state was the beneficiary.

I suppose we can be very thankful to the boards of both Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton for their decision to attempt—it was not an amalgamation; I forget the exact word they used—a cooperative coming together of their operational activities in the Pilbara to share various rail lines and the like. They felt that that would save them money. At the end of the day, it cost them \$1.9 billion over four years, so it has not exactly worked out as they may have intended. In any event, it is the state's good fortune that that attempt was made. I did not object to their attempt. I like to try to smooth the path for business to get on with what they do, so I was not angry about their attempt. I remember the Premier was very angry at the time—in fact, he was outraged—out the front of the building. Our Premier lives in a permanent state of outrage. He was in front of the cameras and expressed his outrage at what Tom Albanese and Marius Kloppers were attempting to achieve.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I just anticipated the Chinese response.

Mr M. McGOWAN: If the Chinese were going to be upset, sometimes other countries are upset and we need to act in our own national interest. I did not object to the companies attempting a mechanism to improve their efficiency and to ensure that their cost structures were competitive. If that upsets overseas countries, I was not too unhappy about that. Obviously, I do not have to walk into the Great Hall of the People and face the music as the Premier appears to have to—or wherever it is he has walked into when he has gone over there; I am sure it is the equivalent of the Great Hall of the People—to deal with our customers in China who no doubt were not happy, according to the Premier, when the arrangement was proposed.

In any event, it did not work out as the companies had planned. I think the Europeans might have been unhappy as well. Ultimately, from their efforts to secure a better, more efficient and more cost-effective outcome, they have proven to be the losers in a financial sense. However, one thing I have noticed about the big iron ore miners is that what is a large amount of money for most businesses, most citizens and indeed most states is not that big an amount of money for the largest businesses. Therefore, the increase in the royalty rate, whilst significant for Western Australia—\$1.9 billion, according to government figures, over the four-year forward estimates—is not exactly the largest amount of money for BHP Billiton, which produced a \$23 billion or \$24 billion profit.

Ms J.M. Freeman: It was \$22.5 billion.

Mr M. McGOWAN: It produced a \$22.5 billion profit recently, and I assume Rio Tinto's would be in a similar ballpark, based upon the extraordinary rise in the price of iron ore out of Western Australia that it has been profiting from. The amounts of money involved was not as significant a loss for those companies as it might have been for other businesses, other industries and other people. I suppose they are able to endure that and continue doing business. It is the state's victory, and it is a good success. It has been worked on for a long time, and we were lucky for that fortuitous event of that coming together. The Premier might remember the word used—I cannot quite remember it—to describe that operational coming together of their activities in the Pilbara.

What was the outcome of those negotiations? It will lift the royalty rate for iron ore fines. I visited a bunch of iron ore mines in the Mid West on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. I saw a lot of iron ore fines sitting on the ground. For the information of members, there are different types of iron ore. It is all very complex, but, historically, the more expensive and the more sought after sort of iron ore for use in steel mills has been lump ore. It is iron ore that, as it goes through its initial processes, as members might imagine, is in a lump form. Fines ore is much finer, and historically was of low value because technology, as it might have been —

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected.

Mr M. McGOWAN: It is much lumpier, yes.

Mr M.P. Whitely: Lump ore is lumpier and fines ore is finer.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Lump ore is lumpier and fines ore is actually finer, and not vice versa. I saw a large stockpile of fines ore. Historically, it was not of great value to the steel industry, because technology meant that it did not convert from iron ore to steel as easily as other forms of iron ore; therefore, it was of lower value. Therefore, when the original agreements were negotiated back in the 1960s, a lower royalty rate was applied to fines ore than was applied to lump ore. That reflected the lower level of profitability. That is an interesting argument, considering the statements made in question time. That reflected the lower level of profitability of fines ore compared with lump ore, so the state took note of that and adjusted the revenue we receive as a consequence of our provision of that ore to the miners, and therefore received a smaller return. So we did take note of the profit received from one versus the other in the rate at which we apply the royalty.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I think it was also seen as a way of trying to provide an incentive to the companies to develop markets for fines, so it was a bit of both. I agree with you, but there was also an incentive part.

Mr M. McGOWAN: That is a good point. In any event, whilst I show an interest in all sorts of modern history, in particular military history, the Premier shows an interest in the history of forms of minerals. He is very knowledgeable about the forms of minerals and the history of how they got to be where they are.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I'm a failed geology student. It just reflects my failure as a geology student—frustration.

Mr M. McGOWAN: No, I think it is far deeper than that. I think it says something about the Premier's personality.

Mr C.J. Barnett: At least you're conceding I have one. That's a big step forward.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Yes. It is normally an angry and outraged personality.

Ms J.M. Freeman: It's because when it's placed in the blast furnace it needs more oxygen than lump ore, and there's the difference.

Mr M. McGOWAN: There we go. The Premier has a fellow traveller. When it goes in the blast furnace, it needs more oxygen than lump ore, and that explains the difference.

In any event, we are increasing the royalty rate for fines ore from 5.625 per cent to 7.5 per cent over a period to 1 July 2013. The estimated revenue increase to the state from this will be \$1.9 billion over the next three years. I am going to ask the Premier a question because I would like him to respond to it in his second reading reply. That seems to me like a lot of money for a relatively small increase in a royalty rate for one part of the iron ore industry. That sort of increase in revenue seems extraordinarily large—nearly \$2 billion in just over three years. We must remember that over those three years it is phased in, so it is only a one per cent increase in the first year, and a two per cent increase over the two years. So it seems like a large increase in revenue.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Just doing some mental arithmetic, it is about a 40 per cent increase in the royalty rate, effectively—40 per cent of a percentage increase, if you like.

Mr M. McGOWAN: In total, yes.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Yes. So it is a significant increase of 40 per cent, and against a background of an increase in production.

Mr M. McGOWAN: That factors in, I suppose, any predictions about the value of iron ore and how it might go up or down; and I am unaware, off the top of my head, whether it is predicted to go up or down or stay exactly where it is over that period.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I think it is a reasonably conservative estimate of price, but who knows exactly?

Mr M. McGOWAN: Okay. When the Premier sums up, I would not mind if his advisers could let us know. I am trying to remember exactly how much royalty revenue the state gets every year, but I think it is about \$4 billion that we receive in royalty revenue each year, and that is across every single mineral that the state sells to the mining industry. It seems like a lot of money, particularly when we take into account the amount of money the commonwealth is predicting to make from the minerals resource rent tax over all of the iron ore and coal in Australia over each year. It seems to be a lot, considering this is a relatively small interest. Anyway, I will seek the Premier's further explanation of that.

We support the increase in the royalty rate. We think that is a reasonable thing on iron ore. I have expressed before that I do not think some other minerals are in the same position as iron ore, so I have not suggested that there be royalty increases on some other minerals, particularly those that require more downstream processing. However, iron ore has been very profitable; it has been a huge success, and the price at which it sells has gone up very much, and, as we know, the companies that are selling it, in general, are doing very, very well. Therefore, I think it is fair and reasonable for the state that is by law the holder of the resource to at least share in the success of the mineral. Its success is something that we, as Western Australians, should all be a part of. I understand that people in the areas in which the ore is mined naturally have some feeling of ownership also and that they should receive a greater benefit from the mining of the ore, apart from the relatively large pay packets that many of them receive, and I agree with that also. However, I think that the state receiving a greater benefit from the ore is a good thing.

The bill has a large number of other parts, and I will speak about just a few of them. I note that in each of the state agreements being amended, which is, I think, roughly 11 state agreements, including the marvellously named McCamey's Monster act—I love McCamey's Monster; it is fantastic —

Mr P.C. Tinley: It hops!

Mr M. McGOWAN: It rocks! McCamey's Monster is fantastic. The Mount Newman act does not exactly do it in the same way that McCamey's Monster does. However, I think we have 11 acts being amended across each of the agreements. I have noted that two of the things being put in each of the agreement acts are the requirement to prepare a local participation plan and a community development plan, so I will go to some of the provisions contained in the legislation. I will pick, for instance, the Mount Newman agreement act, and the local participation plan at proposed clause 7E of the schedule. This provision suggests that the companies will need to provide a local industry participation benefits plan as part of this amendment to the state agreement. That will insert into the agreement the use and training of labour; the use of the services of engineers, surveyors, architects and other professional consultants; the procurement of works, materials, plant, equipment and supplies from Western Australian suppliers, manufacturers and contractors; detailed information on the strategies they will use to procure local content; detailed information on the procurement practices that the company will use to secure works, materials, plant, equipment and so forth from Western Australian suppliers; detailed information on the methods the company will use, and require a third party to use, to have its respective procurement officers promptly introduced to Western Australian suppliers, manufacturers and contractors seeking such an introduction; details of the communication strategies the company will use to alert Western Australian engineers, surveyors, architects and other professional consultants in relation to local content; and so it goes on. Each of the agreements has had this local participation plan requirement inserted into it.

Once again, I applaud the Premier on this, but I must say that it bears some resemblance to an earlier amendment in the house that, funnily enough, I moved in relation to the Roy Hill legislation back in September 2010. When the Roy Hill agreement act came before the house to enable the Roy Hill railway, I think, and the Roy Hill mine to get underway, which the opposition then supported, I moved an amendment to that legislation, which will be found on page 6051 of the *Hansard* of 7 September 2010, seeking all those things—admittedly, not as extensively drafted or as complexly worded—in relation to information for Western Australian businesses; information on how procurement practices will provide an opportunity for Western Australian businesses; a clear statement on how the proponent will maximise the use of local businesses, goods and services; a local participation plan; and information on how local suppliers will be given the same opportunity to participate. I note that in the debate on that day the Premier said —

... I see some quite considerable merit in what the member for Rockingham has proposed.

The Premier did not accept the amendment at that point and I understand why he did not accept it at that point. He then went on to say —

... I agree with the objective of it, and I undertake that the government will look at that, perhaps with some refinements, and look to include something along that line as a supplement to the local content clause in future state agreements.

Mr C.J. Barnett: There you go.

Mr M. McGOWAN: There we go. All those millions of words and something has come of it.

Mr C.J. Barnett: It just shows I am a softy.

Mr M. McGOWAN: It shows that the Premier has listened to what I have had to say and he has inserted a similar clause, which is not as well-drafted as mine, admittedly, to the one that I and the —

Mr C.J. Barnett: Would you like us to refer to it as “the McGowan clause”? It is your place in history—perhaps your only place in history!

Mr M. McGOWAN: I am sure I have a bigger place in history than that.

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I do not know whether we need to go to alcohol straightaway as my place in history!

Mr W.J. Johnston: I am just helping!

Mr M. McGOWAN: Thank you, member for Cannington.

I noted from the Premier’s second reading speech that he did not refer to it. I think he hoped it would get through without me noticing that he had plagiarised my idea from September of last year. However, I noticed, and the Premier has tried to appropriate the idea that I came forward with and to call it his own without giving acknowledgment. I have been over his second reading speech and looked for my name and the only place my name appears is when I adjourned the debate! The Premier has not given due acknowledgement to the author of that idea. I am sure that in his reply to the second reading debate, the Premier will no doubt give credit where credit is due about that local participation plan concept and the excellent drafting undertaken on the earlier clause by me and the clerks in this place. We support that concept.

We will seek to amend what the Premier has proposed in this bill. I know that the Premier will not support the amendment, but I will explain to the Premier what it will be. We will not seek to amend the actual agreements that the Premier put in place, but we will seek to amend the act that puts those agreements in place. The amendment to the act will seek some transparency around those local participation plans. The Premier left out of his amendment something that I put into my amendment back in 2010—that is, there would be publication of the agreements. As far as I can see, the publication of the local participation plans is not incorporated into the Premier’s local participation plans. It may well be the Premier’s intent to do so, but we want to put into law that those agreements must be published so that the government can be held to account against the agreement. That is one of the most important issues in the whole local content debate. Unless we make sure that governments and companies are held to public account for what they achieve, we will not satisfy people that this state is receiving the benefit that it should out of these projects. We have drafted some amendments to provide additional transparency in relation to the local participation plans and we will move those amendments in debate. I am confident that the Premier will not support those amendments, but I think that the intent behind these amendments is right. If the Premier can point out to me where in the bill there is a requirement for that transparency, I will listen to him. Perhaps the Premier could provide an indication to the house that he will make those local participation plans public.

The Premier is also putting in place what he calls a community development plan. I cannot claim that I drafted the original version of this, but I can claim that they follow fairly closely the idea or the principle behind the local participation plan. If we go, for instance, to proposed clause 7D of the Iron Ore (Mount Newman)

Agreement under clause 6 of the bill, we will find that there is a requirement for a community development plan, which requires —

- (a) assistance with skills development and training opportunities to promote work readiness and employment for persons living in the Pilbara region of the said State;
 - (b) regional development activities in the Pilbara region of the said State ...
- ...
- (3) The Company agrees that:
 - (a) it shall prepare a plan which describes the Company's proposed strategies for achieving community and social benefits in connection with its activities under this Agreement;

Those are all laudable ideas and I am supportive of them. In that context I want to raise the issue of training and apprenticeships. We need to be more forthright in that area. I personally think one of the great benefits of the boom is the opportunity to make sure that we have a well-trained and educated workforce in Western Australia. We need to be constantly aware of that. I know that the companies, particularly Rio and BHP Billiton, have employed large numbers of apprentices and trainees. I would like to see this plan developed to show the public how the companies will enhance that effort. This legislation is a good way of going about that enhancement. Again, that needs to be made public so that people can hold the government and the companies to account against whatever their stated ambitions are so that we know what they are achieving versus the state of the ambition.

The bills contain a range of other provisions, particularly to do with BHP. I will start with that one first. These provisions concern a reorganisation of the land in the vicinity of Port Hedland. I will not go into the details of it, but it is basically to enable the land upon which the BHP hot briquetted iron plant and the beneficiation plant are located and the associated land, which I think totals something like 1 300 hectares, to be used for alternative purposes. Those purposes will be predominantly as a stockpiling area for BHP Billiton's activities. With the demise of the HBI plant and the beneficiation plant and, we could say, the demise of Hismelt in Kwinana, we would have to say that both Rio and BHP are moving away from the concept of downstream processing and heading more in the direction of being the biggest iron ore exporters in the world. I think they already are. From memory, the port of Port Hedland is the largest iron ore-exporting port in the world and the highest tonnage port in the world.

When we combine the export from Dampier and Port Hedland, we find that they are both very high tonnage export ports. That has been the key to the profitability of both those companies and their success. That is what has made them the world players that they are. I know that they have a lot of other assets around the world, but their resources in the Pilbara are the diamonds in the crown. The export that they undertake from those ports in the Pilbara is the key to their success and profitability. Those companies have moved away from the downstream processing model that has been attempted for decades in Western Australia. Clauses termed "best effort downstream processing clauses" were always put into the original state agreements. Those best effort clauses were basically about the companies doing their best to undertake that sort of downstream activity. Sometimes it took a while for the companies to reach the point of undertaking that effort. In the case of Rio and the Hismelt plant, it was the culmination of a long period to get Rio to the stage of attempting that pig iron manufacturing plant for an alternative process in Kwinana. I think it was a long period to get them to the point of undertaking that. Perhaps by necessity the original state agreements were not specific; they were best endeavour-type clauses. Governments worked with them to get them to those points. On the other hand, BHP's effort in Hedland with the HBI plant was rather more ambitious and more expensive. Neither efforts worked. I think there were failures of scientific process and also failure due to cost, considering that Rio has recently dismantled its Hismelt plant in Kwinana and moved it—I think in its entirety—to India, where it will undertake the same activities.

There is no doubt that there are lower cost structures in some countries such as India. Both organisations have moved away from the downstream processing obligations that were under their original state agreement acts. What they worked out, which is not rocket science, is that the big profit is in sending large amounts of iron ore to Japan, China and Korea and a few other marketplaces—probably India in due course. That is where the large profitability is and that is where they will focus their efforts, which is why, I suppose, as we heard in the local content debate and the clause I read out before in the Roy Hill bill and all the debates we have had around this issue, we have recognised that a lot of the effort has to go into the manufacturing of the plant and equipment and the provision of the infrastructure that services that mining in Western Australia. I suppose it would be fair to say that the closure of the HBI plant could not have been prevented. Because we know that our local manufacturers around Western Australia should be receiving a better share of the work provided by the mining industry, we have moved to ensure that that debate is now front and centre.

Mr C.J. Barnett: It is important to distinguish between mining and petroleum

Mr M. McGOWAN: I think that is correct, although it is a funny thing; I think the off-shore oil and gas industry has not been as good as the mining industry in using local suppliers. But I also know that in briefings, the mining companies tell us one thing, and then we meet with the local manufacturers and fabricators—these by definition are medium to small businesses and are not as profitable, not as successful and not as rich as the big companies—and they tell us another thing. They say, “We bid for this one; we didn’t get an opportunity to bid for that one; they ruled us out because of all sorts of extraneous reasons from being even part of the bidding process for this project.” That happens all the time. Every time I meet with a local fabricator—I cannot fault them; they have excellent workshops and modern equipment, and they seem very, very capable—they tell us such stories. Largely, their workshops are not humming; they are not as full as they could be. I think there is something in that argument, based on my own experience of visiting the workshops within proximity of my electorate, but predominantly in the member for Cockburn’s electorate.

We are changing the arrangements with the land in Port Hedland so that BHP has stockpiling areas and areas in which it can connect to the outer-harbour development it is considering building. The outer-harbour development is a massive project if and when it happens and, knowing BHP, I think it will eventually get to the point of undertaking that development. That development will massively increase its capacity to export iron ore from Port Hedland. I think the rearranging of the right to use the land is a key component of allowing BHP to undertake that outer-harbour development in Port Hedland. That is a component of this legislation. I do not think it is something that the state would have objected to. I do not think we would even have said to the companies—the Premier might correct me—that in order to undertake that, they need to pay a higher level of royalty. I do not think that would have been something we would hold over BHP on the basis it wants to expand, develop and enhance its project and provide more royalties to the state. If that project goes ahead and meets all the approvals and so forth, it will probably be a good thing for the state.

I sometimes wonder how extensive the resource is and what its life is in the Pilbara, considering it is one of the great minerals provinces of the world. At the rate of expansion in the Pilbara, I sometimes wonder how much we are reducing the lifetime of that particular resource.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I think all it means is that we go to progressively lower grades. Just about the whole Pilbara is iron ore. It means over time the grade of the deposit will progressively fall—massive reserves of slightly lower grade.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Mt Newman is the champagne of iron ores.

Mr J.J.M. Bowler: Tom Price and Mt Whaleback are.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Are they the champagnes, member for Kalgoorlie?

Mr C.J. Barnett: There is cheap wine out there, too.

Mr J.J.M. Bowler: The Veuve Clicquot!

Mr M. McGOWAN: The member for Kalgoorlie is an expert on wines and says that the Veuve Clicquot of iron ores is at Mt Whaleback and Tom Price! I was not aware of how good the ore is at Tom Price, but I am aware of how good it is at Mt Whaleback. I think I have said in here before that when I was first elected to Parliament in early 1997, I did a mining tour with the Chamber of Minerals and Energy. I think only I and the former Premier Alan Carpenter went from this place at that time. We went to Newman and Mt Whaleback, which, at that time was actually a mountain. We could see it right behind Newman. These days, of course, it is not a mountain any more; it is a pit. It is extraordinary how much ore has been pulled out of that resource. I know that there are numerous ore resources around but that was obviously the best and most profitable. In any event, I suppose the remaining ore will be of a lower grade. When we are talking about the run-down of the state’s mineral resources, iron ore will not run down as quickly as others.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I think the other point is that, even now, a large number of new discoveries are still being made. Some would say that the Pilbara is still relatively underexplored. A lot of the ore has been discovered by surface manifestations, whereas a lot of it is below ground as well.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I am sure that is the case. In fact, I was in the Mid West the other day. It always strikes me, as not an expert, that when we fly around out there, the areas are massive but there will be what looks like a pinprick, but which is an iron ore mine. It makes me wonder how that spot was ever found. We are told that the resource is two kilometres this way by three kilometres that way, in the middle of a massive expanse of land in Western Australia. I know I am not a professional in these things and I am sure there are exact reasons —

Mr F.M. Logan: That is why there are aerial surveyors.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Many of the discoveries are where there was an outcrop. If the ore body didn’t outcrop it probably hasn’t been found yet.

Mr M. McGOWAN: That was the Lang Hancock story, was it not? He spotted the outcrops.

Mr C.J. Barnett: That's true. Some of the gold discoveries have been outcrops. A lot of it is buried under 50 to 100 metres of rubble.

Mr M. McGOWAN: The harbour is a good development. We are removing some of the production limits that were put in place historically. Obviously, they would no longer have an impact. I think they were put in place as a mechanism to encourage some downstream processing.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I think you'll find they were put in primarily in the 1990s on newer mines such as Yandicoogina.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Was that the Premier's doing?

Mr C.J. Barnett: Yes, it was. Ironically, I am removing them now.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Why did the Premier put them in place—to encourage downstream processing?

Mr C.J. Barnett: No; to give the government of the day some leverage in the future, which has now been exercised.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Ha-ha!

Mr C.J. Barnett: It's the truth; it's exactly the truth.

Mr M. McGOWAN: A good private enterprise government back then! That is very East European of the Premier.

Mr C.J. Barnett: You've got to remember the government's got two roles here; the regulator—or the facilitator, if you like—and the commercial interest. Government should never forget its commercial interest is the owner of the iron ore.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Therefore, the Premier is telling me that as minister in the 1990s, he put in place production limits to limit the amount of iron ore it could put out so that at some point in time he could then get another outcome from the company.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Exactly.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Good to know. Anyway, the government is removing those production limits.

I am interested, if the Minister for State Development wants to explain later in the debate, in the railway crossings issue. I do not quite understand how that will work. I think there are some issues—I do not know whether the legislation deals with this—about railways crossing other people's tenements. As I recall, in the debate on the Roy Hill bill, issues were raised about railways crossing land owned by Fortescue Metals Group, or it might have been vice versa, and there being some disputation. I think that the Roy Hill miners wanted to send a railway across land controlled by FMG and it was saying no, but to go by an alternative route required another 100 kilometres of rail at a cost of roughly \$2 million a kilometre, although I think, from the figures I was given the other day, railway construction costs are much higher than that these days. In any event, I do not know whether the provision will determine those sorts of railway issues between different miners or deal with a different railway crossings issue altogether.

There is also an issue about obtaining water from Millstream, which I think was contained in the Rio Tinto legislation. We alleviated some of the local content provisions in various Rio bills in return for Rio giving the state access to 10 gegalitres of water from Millstream. Rio would provide its own production from the Bungaroo bore field in proximity to Pannawonica. I think that is how that works; we get access to Millstream. From the short-lived desalination plant in Karratha that the government announced and then de-announced, we were able to save \$350 million or thereabouts. The state, therefore, received water from the Millstream dam, which was provided to Karratha. That seems to me to be a sensible way of achieving that outcome and I am pleased that Rio has agreed with that. I am interested in what the downside is because major corporations do not give away things, for instance, 10 gegalitres of water, for nothing.

Mr C.J. Barnett: They were given a deferral of their processing obligation in recognition of that.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I am not sure what that means in terms of cost to the state, but in light of the fact that Hismelt did not seem to work —

Mr C.J. Barnett: It gives them access to more water in their own right, too.

Mr M. McGOWAN: That is right, but I am interested in what that will mean in terms of cost to the state. What is the opportunity cost from the deferral of downstream processing obligations? What has the state lost by the deferral of that downstream processing obligation? Again, that was not particularly clear from the minister's second reading speech and I am interested in what that might mean in reality, as opposed to the one or two sentences about it contained in the bill.

I think that basically sums up the legislation. As I indicated to the minister before, we will seek some transparency via an amendment. I will seek advice from the minister about what sort of transparency there will

be on local participation plans and community development plans. We will discuss those two things in the consideration in detail stage. As I indicated before, we do not intend to hold the house up for too long on this significant couple of pieces of legislation. We have been cooperative and I appreciate the fact that the Premier has been cooperative in return in allowing the third reading to be held on Thursday to enable the member for Pilbara, who would have liked to have been in the house for this debate, but unfortunately was otherwise occupied and could not be here for this part of the debate, to speak on this legislation. I assume that applies to the member for Victoria Park as well, who is otherwise caught up and was not able to be in this place for the debate this evening. They will both get their chance on Thursday morning and I will let both of them know that they will have their opportunity then.

MR W.J. JOHNSTON (Cannington) [5.45 pm]: I will make a few remarks on these two pieces of legislation—namely, the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011. There is no doubt that the iron ore industry is a key component of Western Australia's economy. These two bills facilitate changes to arrangements with the two principal operators in the iron ore industry—that is, Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton.

I will go to a few issues, but I will start with the question of training because I know that these bills will result in community agreements that could go to such aspects as training. In the briefing on Monday with the Department of State Development—I appreciate the minister making his departmental staff available for a briefing—I asked how many apprentices and trainees the two companies had. I am advised by the department that Rio Tinto has 298 apprentices and about 499 trainees. The figure for BHP Billiton was not separated into trainees and apprentices, but the information is that it has 175 trainees and apprentices. I make the point that 300 apprentices is a fair number and 500 trainees is a fair number—those are the Rio figures—but I find it surprising that BHP has only 175 apprentices and trainees in its operations. I assume for both companies that these figures relate to their iron ore operations. I think companies can do better on the issue of training.

I was very fortunate to be a member of the State Employment and Skills Development Authority in the 1990s before Minister Norman Moore abolished it. I am sure it was not personal, Premier—it is okay! One of the things we talked about at SESDA in the mid-1990s was the fact that there were not enough training opportunities for Western Australians. Union representatives on that body would always argue that there should be a high number of trainees because that would secure Western Australians' futures. At that time, employer representatives on SESDA argued that the market would provide enough skilled labour for industry in Western Australia. The fact that we had severe labour shortages right through the boom from 2005 onwards demonstrates that we did not have a training system that could cope with future growth. It may well be said that nobody expected the growth to be quite as strong as it ended up being through the first part of the 2000s, but one way or another, clearly, we could have done better. Therefore, I think that there is a very important need to ensure that we do better on the question of training for Western Australians. I wonder whether the minister might like to make some comments in his summary about what expectations there might be around training numbers for these two companies that are taking incredible wealth out of the state. When I say "taking out of the state", I have the figures. Quoting everybody's favourite source *Wikipedia*, in February 2009 the combined joint-listed companies of Rio Tinto had 42 per cent of its shareholders based in the UK, 18 per cent in North America, 16 per cent in Australia, 14 per cent in Asia and 10 per cent in the continental European countries. Only 18 per cent of the profits Rio Tinto makes from these mines stays in Australia; 82 per cent of the profits go elsewhere. I understand BHP is about 40 per cent Australian owned. I think that is about the right figure; I am not sure of the exact figure. Certainly under half of BHP Billiton's shareholdings are Australian. I looked up BHP's annual report. There are domicile records for its shareholders but they are listed separately for BHP and for Billiton, not for the combined entity. I do not have the mathematical capability to calculate exactly what the combined figure is, but I understand it is about 40 per cent.

We lose very large sums of money out of these companies overseas because they make enormous profits out of our resources here in Western Australia. In some ways it is good that the Premier is increasing the royalty rates. I read with interest the Treasurer's budget speech. I have looked at the budget papers and seen the predictions that this increase in royalties will in fact be redistributed away from Western Australia through the GST system. That was predicted at the time the GST deal was made back in the late 1990s, but nonetheless it is still going to be a challenge for Western Australia. I have no trouble with a higher return to the people of this state for this immense wealth that is being taken out of it. I give a little plug at this point for a paper written by a guy named Jason Hart, a Western Australian student who wrote a paper titled "Dutch Disease and the Sustainable Management of Royalty Wealth in Western Australia". I attended the John Curtin Institute of Public Policy's forum "Curtin Corner" on Friday at which Mr Hart presented his paper. I must say that Friday afternoons are not always the best time to get along to Curtin University and attend those little forums. They are often quite interesting. There are 20 to 30 people in a room with some expert in a particular area. I try to get along. Fortunately, it is literally between my office and home. I can sometimes get there but the timing is a bit awkward. This was a particularly interesting paper. I do not necessarily agree with everything that Mr Hart said

in his report. He basically says that Western Australia needs to put more of its mineral royalties into effectively a fund so that as the resources deplete, we have more available for future generations to make up for the loss of the resource. The Premier and I have talked about this; the Premier by interjection on another speech that I gave about how much iron ore resource we have for the future. Clearly, it is an immense resource. We are probably talking about 80 to 100 years of easily recoverable resources as these two companies ramp up production. We are still not talking about generations of resource in the north west.

The other thing that we need to think about is exactly what the price of the resource is. Effectively, what is happening with these two agreements is that the companies are using their infrastructure to get resources to market at a faster rate and at a lower price. Their costs in Western Australia are lower than the costs of alternative producers. Iron ore is actually not a rare material. I understand, from undertaking a bit of research, that Kazakhstan is the place that has the largest amount of iron ore. The problem for Kazakhstan is, firstly, it does not have the infrastructure to get the resource out, and, secondly, its grades are very low. However, it still remains that the resource itself is not rare. Our advantage is, firstly, the high grade of the ore, and, secondly, having the infrastructure in place. I was interested to read through the BHP Billiton investor briefing on the Pilbara expansion. One of the things continually referred to by BHP Billiton in its presentation is the advantage it sees it has in both the cost of production and the infrastructure it uses to get the product to market. I will not quote in detail, but I will refer to the fact that three-quarters of its presentation is not actually about the resource but, rather, about the infrastructure, management and processes. That provides a demonstration of why these two miners are in such a good position. I have a chart from that presentation that shows BHP's cost position being about \$40 a tonne and other producers having costs up to \$150 a tonne. The presentation illustrates that as supply expands and price reduces, the company is in a better position to keep its volumes going forward than other producers around the world. That is great for us. BHP is exporting 350 million tonnes per annum. Rio is doing basically the same amount out of its systems. Western Australia has a long-term future, but not forever, in iron ore. We are swapping a \$350 million payment for the children's hospital plus an increase in the royalty rates, and, in return for that, we are making all these changes to agreements with these companies. I am interested to know, Premier, whether an analysis has been undertaken by the Department of State Development to see what sort of deal we are doing. We can see from the budget papers the benefit we get out of the additional royalty revenue and that \$350 million one-off payment, but do we know what benefit they are getting? What sort of a bargain are we getting for the use of the resource? As the Premier quite rightly says—he is right to say it—it is our resource that they are exploiting on behalf of the people of Western Australia. I am interested to know whether an analysis has been done about their benefit as opposed to our benefit.

I attended the briefing. There was a lot of detail about the benefits BHP Billiton will receive in terms of the restructuring of its land allocations in the Pilbara. Those who attended the briefing could clearly see the benefit BHP will get. I did not understand entirely what benefits Rio would receive. I would like to know whether there has been an analysis done to see whether we are getting the good side of the bargain.

Again looking at the presentation from BHP Billiton, it is interesting the prices that are being delivered to BHP Billiton for its operations around the world. It has operations in Brazil and also potential operations in west Africa. In its presentation, BHP is referring to an 80 to 90 per cent increase in average realised prices for the financial year 2010–11. That is an incredible jump in price. Because there is a royalty at a fixed rate, the profit that can be received from an increase in the price is not 80 per cent, it is probably a 160 per cent increase in profit. Although its costs are going up, the costs are not going up at the same rate as the price. If a company has a 50 per cent margin and doubles the price—let us say it has five per cent royalties, to make it easy for me to calculate—royalty goes up 100 per cent. Let us say there is a cost escalation of 50 per cent. Costs go up from a nominal \$50 to a nominal \$75, but the price has gone up from \$100 to \$200; the profit suddenly goes from being \$45 to \$115 or \$120. It is a very significant increase. Profit margins actually go up faster than any other element of this.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Do not forget companies pay company tax.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: Absolutely.

Mr C.J. Barnett: That is a progressive tax.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: No. Company tax is a flat tax.

Mr C.J. Barnett: There are no progressions.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: Yes; there are no progressions. It is a flat tax, and that is fine. The resource rent tax will address some of that because, as profit goes up, the resource rent tax comes in.

Sitting suspended from 6.00 to 7.00 pm

The SPEAKER: Members, just before I give the member for Cannington the call—I believe he was on his feet before the break—I wish to refer to the point of order that the member for Rockingham made earlier today under standing order 109. Now is probably not the right time or place, given that the member for Cannington has the

call, and I indicate to the member for Rockingham that tomorrow at the beginning of Parliament I will make reference to standing order 109 and the point of order that he made earlier today.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, and now that I have your undivided attention, I will continue my remarks!

Just before the break I was discussing the fact that increasing prices leads to much bigger jumps in income for the companies.

Quorum

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: Mr Speaker, I draw your attention to the state of the house.

[Bells rung.]

The SPEAKER: Member for Cannington, before I give you the call—I do not seek to erode your time—I know that the member for Darling Range is very enthusiastic about this process, but I just advise him to perhaps curb his enthusiasm; I think he understands what I am saying!

[Quorum formed.]

Debate Resumed

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: I was talking about the fact that increasing prices actually has a disproportionate effect on increasing income. As part of the BHP Billiton presentation, the point was made that it had had the average realised prices for both lump and fines increased by between 80 per cent and 90 per cent from 2010–11, but for the EBIT report, it referred to a 122 per cent increase in underlying EBIT to \$US13.3 billion from 2010–11, primarily due to higher prices and strong production. That just illustrates the point I was making before the dinner break—that the profit actually goes up faster than the price increase. Whilst the royalty income goes up in accordance with the price increase, the profit actually goes up faster.

I also make the point that, as part of its presentation, BHP Billiton gave a very interesting analysis of the cost breakdown. Secondary taxes and royalties are marked at 18 per cent of costs. It said that royalties increased following the non-binding heads of agreement signed with the government of Western Australia. We can see that there is a much larger profit on top of its costs, but even so the taxes and royalties form only 18 per cent of its costs, even at seven per cent. It is not hard, therefore, to work out what all its other costs are, based on the royalty payments.

I now want to move on to another issue in respect of these bills, and that is the removal of the secondary processing obligations.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: I make the observation that the Premier and I had a bit of an exchange across the chamber on the Roy Hill legislation, and we both agreed that this is about modernising the way that these agreements operate. I described it as a sort of 1960s, Sir Charles Court approach, where we were trying to get these companies to set up downstream processing over a 30 or 40-year period, and we have not been able to achieve that. The Premier described it in terms of trying to make a mining company into a processing company, and that what we really needed to achieve was to get processing companies to base themselves here.

It is interesting that there was a Chinese company looking at making iron and steel in Oakajee, and it has decided not to do that because the costs of building a plant at that location were, for that company, too high. This is going to be a challenge; with the dollar at the level it is now, any construction project in Australia is going to be very difficult. If it is a processing project, where the alternative is an Asian country where both the construction costs and the ongoing labour costs will be lower, it is going to be hard for us to achieve the downstream processing that we have always wanted over a long period of time.

The issue for us to consider now is: What are we going to be doing? Are we simply going to be a quarry? What else are we going to do? Obviously one of those options is mining services, because Western Australia clearly has a very advanced mining services industry that has developed over a long time. One can go to a range of conferences and hear what people talk about in terms of Western Australia's mining services, which we are now trying to provide to the world.

It was interesting to read some comments by Perry Williams, resources editor of *The Australian Financial Review*, in a 31 October 2011 article entitled "Pollies, miners dig a hole for themselves". The last couple of paragraphs of his article read —

An entertaining session on mining investment in Africa contained a gem of wisdom from an African delegate who asked Rio Tinto chief executive Tom Albanese how he could be sure which Western mining projects should be welcomed on to the continent.

“Not everybody who goes into mining is a crook, but all crooks are in mining,” said the delegate to widespread applause. “How can I tell—who is a crook and who is not a crook in mining?”

The article concludes —

It was a rare moment of insight amid one of the more forgettable international business forums in recent times.

We have a major problem here. I am highlighting that many companies are successfully engaging in African countries to develop resources, and I wish them well. However, just like there is a history in Western Australia of mining companies being floated for projects that do not go very far, now that sad culture of mining the share market rather than mining minerals is also being seen. It is not just an Australian thing. Members will remember the Canadian gold mining company in Indonesia, which had the same issues. We are going to have to make sure that our reputation is maintained. We have to be very careful to ensure that the projects that are promoted in Africa are real projects that are going to provide a benefit to the countries in which we are investing. We are ideally suited to that process because our own country needs foreign investment. We have never been able to exploit the resources of this state without foreign capital. Australia has, for almost 200 years, had a need for foreign capital. We have some experience in managing that process. I note that the Premier occasionally makes comments about projects that he thinks are less than first rate. I think the regulatory environment in Africa is going to be critical. We are going to need to ensure that the crooks, as described in the article, are known and properly regulated. The problem for us is that if we do not do that, our reputation will be severely damaged. As I say, I think we have some ability to operate in that area because we have experience in trying to manage foreign investment in this state.

One of the other challenges for downstream processing is, of course, energy costs. We are forgiving these companies their downstream processing in return for a higher royalty rate. The higher royalty rate is not going to make ours the highest royalty rate in the world or anything like that; it is a modest increase when compared with the rate in some other places in the world and for some other materials that are mined and exploited elsewhere in the world. It is interesting that some of the places with the highest levels of taxes on extraction industries are also the most successful places in the world for extraction industries, so there is not necessarily any automatic connection between high returns to the owners of the resource and a lower activity in the resources sector. We are going to have to think about how we get that back. There is a major challenge for us with energy costs in this state; that is, the North West Shelf joint venture. Because of the visionary contracts entered into by Sir Charles Court, we have had a very long period of stable energy supply in this state. The report of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, which I was privileged to be a part of, for the first time looked in detail at the future. The state energy initiative is running at the same time. In my view, the problem with the state energy initiative is that it is full of good platitudes and it has a 30-year time horizon, yet our real challenge is the next five to 10 years. We need to make sure that we continue to have adequate supplies of gas at a reasonable price until new projects like Gorgon and Wheatstone come online. In the mid term, beyond the five to 15-year horizon, we need to make sure that gas is made available out of the North West Shelf joint venture to the domestic market. There is no more important issue in front of the state government today than ensuring that we continue to have adequate supply out of the North West Shelf joint venture. There is no opportunity for downstream processing in Western Australia without that adequate gas supply. Indeed, there is a real challenge to keep some of the downstream processing that we currently have in this state, such as Alcoa and BHP Billiton aluminium, if we do not have competitively priced gas available. It is interesting that if we today built a gas pipeline from the Cooper Basin to Karratha, gas would not flow from Karratha to the Cooper Basin but from the Cooper Basin to Karratha, because gas on the east coast is half the price of gas under new gas contracts in Western Australia. The average price in Western Australia hides the fact that more recent contracts have been set at a much higher value. There have been media reports about the price for gas paid by CITIC Pacific. I do not know the accuracy of those media reports but they talked about \$12 or \$13 a gigajoule compared with \$4 a gigajoule in the transparent market on the east coast.

Mr C.J. Barnett: It is a very regulated market on the east coast.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: No. I am happy to have a conversation with the Premier. He should go and read the report.

Mr C.J. Barnett: The Bass Strait agreements.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: It is a very different market. I have only three minutes left on the clock. The member for Riverton is the chairman of the committee. He and I completely agree on this issue; we do not agree on other issues but we agree on this one. The findings of the report do not show that. What they show is that there is a much more diverse market on the east coast for a range of technical reasons that we cannot replicate here, connected to infrastructure and resource and also to the peakiness of their market. We do not have a very peaky market; our market is very flat, so we do not have an opportunity for trading in the way they do on the east coast. The point I am making is that their big demand is in winter. It is significantly different from a summer demand.

Production remains the same all year, so they can trade demand from the peak period to the non-peak period by using different fuels. It is a completely different market from the one we have here. Because the price is so much lower on the east coast, if we built a pipeline across the country, despite all the riches of gas in this state the gas would come this way and not go the other way. Gas will always flow to the highest priced market. We are the highest priced market. That is economics 101. Who knows what will happen when their gas starts to be absorbed by the export market at \$10 or \$12 a gigajoule and whether there will be a resetting of the price on the east coast. At the moment at \$4 a gigajoule, Western Australia buyers would buy gas from the east coast, even with transport costs. This is a critical issue. The number one issue facing the state is making sure that the North West Shelf joint venture makes gas available in the near term—I am talking beyond the rollover of existing contracts, which are all detailed in the recommendations of the report. Without that we are going to have serious trouble in not just attracting additional processing opportunities but also retaining the ones that we currently have. That is going to be interesting. I think we are doing the right thing by releasing these companies from their obligations, because I do not think they are ever going to be commercially viable. The Premier might be right; maybe it is better to find a processing company rather than to try to convert a miner into it. At the moment it is not likely to happen, and it certainly will not happen.

MR F.M. LOGAN (Cockburn) [7.19 pm]: I rise to add some comments about the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011, which are being debated cognately. First, I acknowledge the work that the government has done on these bills, and in particular for increasing the royalty rates for fine ores up to 6.5 per cent and 7.5 per cent in 2012 and 2013. That is the conclusion of negotiations that began, if people remember, under the Labor government, and particularly under Premier Carpenter. People might remember the backlash from the mining companies about the audacity of the state government seeking to increase its royalty rates on ore fines when Premier Carpenter first raised these issues. Therefore, I certainly acknowledge the work that has been done under the current government to bring those negotiations to a conclusion.

I also acknowledge what the government has done in using the opportunity of amending these state agreement acts by getting the companies to accept and agree to the inclusion in the amending bills of both the community development plans and the local participation plans. I think both are necessary parts of modern state agreement acts, and I think and hope that the government, if it has the opportunity to do so in future negotiations of agreement acts, will carry on the work and include these types of provisions—both the community development plans and the local participation plans—in all state agreement acts where appropriate. It is a pity, as the member for Rockingham said earlier, that those provisions were not able to be included by way of agreement within the Railway (Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd) Agreement Act. That was a missed opportunity. I do not suggest the government did not try to put the provisions in that legislation—maybe it did; maybe it did not—but that was an opportunity missed, because the likelihood is that the inclusion of those provisions by way of agreement after that mine gets up and running will be many, many years away. This is particularly the case with the local participation plan amendment and the local content aspect because the owner of the Roy Hill operation has made it very clear that virtually all equipment for that mine will come from overseas. We will wait to see whether that is the case, but that is the indication from the owner of that operation.

With respect to the local participation plan and its relationship to the local content issues that this side of the house has been raising now for quite some time, we acknowledge and appreciate that the government has picked up the wording that we had in our local content legislation proposals, and basically included that wording into the agreement acts by way of the local participation plan. The member for Rockingham has also said that we will move an amendment to further amend the bill to basically make public—hopefully, the government will agree—the appropriate parts of a local participation plan. Commercial-in-confidence information is expected to be in that local participation plan, and obviously that should not be made public. Nevertheless, certainly those provisions and that information that is important to the general public and particularly to those people who would benefit from a local participation plan should be made public. It is very appropriate that the plan provisions be made public.

I have a few issues with the bills that I hope the Premier will address, because I am not able to identify how the amendments in both bills will work in practice. Using the Iron Ore (Hamersley Range) Agreement Act 1963 as an example, clause 3(9), as indicated in the explanatory memorandum of the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill, inserts new subclauses 21(2a), 21(2b) and 23(2c) over eligible existing tenure and special advance tenure to be granted pursuant to this agreement. Premier, I read through the bill itself, and of course eligible existing tenure relates to miscellaneous leases and special leases that are primarily there for the construction of plant on a particular lease. I want to clarify that by including those into the state agreement act, the minister effectively is being given the power to grant those leases should the company wish to set up a beneficiation plant, a processing plant or allied equipment associated with a processing and mining of iron ore. Having looked at the explanation of leases under the Mining Act, the granting of those leases is for purposes of the establishment of that equipment. I presume then that these changes, which allow the minister to give

acknowledgement of those leases and to include them into the state agreement act, are only for the purposes of the construction and establishment of mining and processing equipment. As is stated in the act, they are not for the inclusion of mining leases that fall outside the state agreement boundaries into the state agreement act.

Mr C.J. Barnett: It brings some mining leases under the agreement act; I'm not sure which ones, but it is consolidating it from the point of view of BHP Billiton, and in the Boodarie site some of those leases are for the harbour, and others will revert back to the state.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Right. I think the miscellaneous leases cover such things.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Railways.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Railways and stuff like that.

Mr C.J. Barnett interjected.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I know the other leases that I refer to also cover where someone would stick a plant. It is a 10-hectare lease, so it is where someone would stick a plant. If it is only for those purposes, I really have nothing much more to say about it, Premier. If it is for mining leases outside the state agreement act, both Hamersley and BHP have normal mining leases under the Mining Act, but if suddenly they were to extend the boundaries of that act to include all —

Mr C.J. Barnett: Some of those do come under the agreements, yes. That suits both the company and the state for administration.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: If that is the case, Premier, how does the mining industry feel about that, because those leases, as the Premier knows, can be contested —

Mr C.J. Barnett: The footprint of BHP and Rio is, for example, less than, say, FMG.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I accept that —

Mr C.J. Barnett: So there is a consolidation; it suits both parties, but I'll try to give you further information.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I am pretty sure, Premier, that is about those miscellaneous leases and only really where the construction stuff is. I know if it was to go beyond that we would hear the rest of the mining industry screaming from here—if it was just simple mining leases—because they do roll over from time to time, and as the Premier knows, controversially, can be contested by other miners. The Rio Tinto case is a classic example of a lease being contested and, as the Premier knows, the question of who should have that mining lease was dealt with by a previous Labor minister. The reason I raise it is that if it is restricted to those areas with existing mining operations or the possibility of new mining processing operations, obviously there is nothing really that either this side of the house or the mining industry would say about it. But if it is about basically taking all the other mining leases that exist but are not covered by state agreement acts, and enveloping them into a state agreement act, I think the mining industry would literally be up in arms about that. That is one of the issues that I ask the Premier to refer to.

The other issue relates to a simple reference in the second reading speech on the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill—that is, the bill to amend the state agreement acts for the Hamersley Rio Tinto operations. The last paragraph of that speech states —

Other specific amendments include amendments to the Iron Ore (Yandicoogina) Agreement Act 1996 to allow a longer term deferral of Rio Tinto's Alcoa further processing obligations as part of the Bungaroo water project.

I have looked through the Iron Ore (Yandicoogina) Agreement Act 1996, and I cannot for the life of me find where that amendment is that is referred to in the second reading speech. I will stand corrected as to which clause of the bill amends the Yandicoogina agreement to give effect to both the deferral of the processing obligation and the Bungaroo water project.

Mr C.J. Barnett: While you are proceeding, I will ask someone if they can give me an indication of which clause it is.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Also, while the Premier is asking his advisers about that, it appears, from the information that I can gather from government, that the Bungaroo water project is a transfer of a water entitlement from Rio Tinto's access to water at Millstream of, I think, some eight gigalitres, effectively to the Water Corporation, on behalf of the state, in exchange for this amendment that will be included in this bill.

Mr C.J. Barnett: That will allow Rio to dewater at Bungaroo and bring that water supply in.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: That was the next question, Premier. That still requires Bungaroo to be dewatered, as part of the mining operations. What will happen to that water? Remember, it is an exchange of water—the eight

gigalitres that Rio can get from Millstream will go to the Water Corporation. Therefore, what will the water that will emerge out of the mining operation at Bungaroo be used for?

Mr C.J. Barnett: Rio needs more water for dust suppression. There are limitations, obviously, on what can be drawn from Millstream. It would be difficult to sustain that the company would have access to Millstream, when Karratha is running short of water. Rio recognised that, and it basically proposed that it dewater Bungaroo and use that water for its operations. That will release the Millstream water for the town, and, in exchange for that, the government will give Rio relief on its processing obligations. That is basically what the deal is.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I am glad the Premier explained it, because that clarifies it for us. Can the Premier provide any information on what Rio Tinto intends to do in moving that water around? Is it only for its own operations and to serve as dust suppression at Yandicoogina, or will it then pipe that water to Tom Price?

Mr C.J. Barnett: It is dust suppression, I understand, at the port at Karratha.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: And for the port at Karratha as well?

Mr C.J. Barnett: Yes. I will clarify that.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: That is a significant pumping cost. Also, if that is the case, it may provide a long-term option for a future government to access that water if it goes all the way to Karratha as well. So if the Premier could provide advice on that detail, I would appreciate it.

With respect to the impact of the local participation plan, there is an acknowledgment, particularly in the second reading speech as it applies to the Rio Tinto state agreements, that Rio Tinto has an excellent record in these areas and that, over the past couple of years, local content has been in the order of 82 per cent. Certainly as a former minister and somebody who has been actively involved in the engineering industry for basically all my life, I would concur that Rio Tinto and BHP have been very good companies, along with Alcoa and some of the other major mining operators in Western Australia, in purchasing their major pieces of equipment—major plant—from engineering companies in Western Australia. However, because of the influence, I would say, of engineering design houses, there has been a tendency of late for companies to source some of their larger standalone equipment from overseas. That does include Rio Tinto. One example is ship-loaders and stacker reclaimers for the Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton operations. These are normally fabricated in the workshops of Kwinana, assembled at the Australian Marine Complex and shipped by heavy lift ship or barge to their operations in the Pilbara at Dampier or Port Hedland. However, recently, a number of these stacker reclaimers and ship-loaders have been sourced from overseas. They are a fantastic source of work for companies in the Kwinana strip, which are experts at fabricating those pieces of equipment, because they have been doing it for so long. Now that most of those pieces of equipment are completely automated and unmanned, these companies are at the cutting edge of designing and constructing those pieces of equipment.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr F.M. LOGAN: The complaints to those companies have, by the way, Premier, resulted in a couple of those projects coming back to Western Australia. But when the companies go to the engineering houses to source that equipment, there is a tendency—I would not say it is coming from the companies themselves—for those engineering houses to advise the companies that they can have this work done overseas at a lower cost, and an internal decision is then made to have those pieces of equipment made overseas. I think it is a great idea, Premier, to include local participation plans in these agreements while we have the opportunity to do so, because hopefully, with that transparency, it might encourage the internal decision makers in both BHP and Rio to be a bit more careful about sourcing that work from Western Australia.

In terms of the debate that occurred earlier about downstream processing, and, for example, the deferral of Rio's further processing obligations as part of the Bungaroo water project, it is interesting to look at what is happening in Brazil. Brazil is the major competitor to the Pilbara for the supply of iron ore. Even though the cost structure in Brazil is different from that in Asia, and significantly different from that in China, nevertheless the Brazilian government has taken the position that it wants its iron ore companies to further process iron ore, and those companies are now ramping up their capacity to manufacture components from steel and the other minerals that are found in that country. It is interesting also to look at the Middle East and at the transformation of gas, particularly in places like Qatar. All the gas in Qatar is owned by the state of Qatar. The companies that extract that gas are the normal majors from around the world—Chevron, Shell, BP, and others—but that gas belongs to Qatar all the way through until it is landed in Korea or Japan. The gas goes on Qatar LNG ships, and it is the state that orders those ships. The large majors are simply contractors who extract the gas for them. We then see what is happening in the Ras Laffan industrial park, right next to where the gas lands. The downstream processing that is taking place with that gas is just unbelievable. It involves chemical plants, the production of gas to liquid, and petrol refineries. It goes on and on. This small principality of only 100 000 people has made a decision that it is in its long-term interests not to ship gas simply as LNG but to transform it to a higher value product. It has benefitted from the income it has received from the gas by pouring it back into carrying out that

processing onshore. We have a completely different structure in Australia when it comes to accessing offshore leases. In fact, we are one of only five countries in the world that allows companies to come in from overseas and bid for the title and temporary ownership of offshore leases for the purposes of extracting gas or oil. Only five countries in the world allow that to take place. In the rest of the countries in the world, the oil and gas belongs to the state.

Mr W.J. Johnston: We are the only country that exports LNG that does not have direct government involvement.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I would believe that. The member for Cannington has examined that as part of a committee inquiry. We are one of five countries in the world that allows companies to get access without any government involvement. As the member for Cannington said, we are the only country that has no involvement in the export of LNG whatsoever. By being in that situation and by the state removing itself from the ability to determine downstream processing of any of our minerals or resources, whether it be oil, gas, or iron ore in this case, when the state withdraws itself from the field, it removes our total opportunity as a state to determine our future in the transformation of those resources. We effectively hand over the power of those resources to the private sector and in many cases in both the mineral industry, particularly the iron ore industry, and the offshore gas industry, those companies are overseas companies. The ability for the state of Western Australia or the nation of Australia to be able to encourage further processing of those materials and to have the flexibility to transform our economy into something other than a hole in the ground or a hole offshore is completely denied because the entire infrastructure is set up for export of those resources without transformation whatsoever.

As you know, Mr Speaker, this issue was raised with us in Africa recently. State governments in South Africa are also trying to deal with the issue of how to maximise the benefit from their resources. Can they transform those resources in their own state to gain the maximum benefit from those resources? We have the same issue here. When a state withdraws from the ability to direct the free market and allows companies to further process minerals, it cuts off all its opportunities to gain the maximum value from those resources and to transform its economy to something other than a hole in the ground or a series of holes offshore. As I said, unfortunately, this agreement does just that. I know it does it, and I know the government believes that the Bungaroo water project is a sufficient offset to be able to withdraw from that space. Other countries in the world have pushed further ahead than Western Australia. They have similar types of governments that rely solely on resources and agriculture to drive their economy. Brazil is driven by minerals, gas and agriculture, which is very similar to Australia. Qatar has only one product, and that is gas. Yet those different countries—one a giant like Australia, the other a tiny principality—are able to transform their economies because the governments of those states have directed the companies involved in the extraction of those resources to further process those resources in those countries. As a result, they are setting themselves up for the future. That future is a higher value, higher technology future. Unfortunately, that will not be the case in Western Australia. It is sad that future Western Australians will be faced with a significant difficulty to be able to change the direction of their economy because of the agreements that we will leave them.

We support the government in this package of bills and acknowledge the work that the government has done by including those provisions, such as the community development plan and the local participation plan. I have questions of the government and I know the Premier will respond to those. Also, my comments on downstream processing stand. I think history will support the points that I have made in the house tonight.

MR P.C. TINLEY (Willagee) [7.46 pm]: Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to make a contribution to this debate. It is indeed a privilege to be speaking while you are in the Chair. Since my inaugural speech, it is only the second time that I have been graced with your audience. Noting the prickliness of this afternoon's session, I hope I enjoy a smooth run for the next 20-odd minutes —

The SPEAKER: Stay there, member for Willagee.

Mr P.C. TINLEY: I would like to make a contribution to this debate and no doubt put our position in support of these amendment bills that have been introduced by the Minister for State Development. It is not surprising that with my portfolio responsibility for local content—or local jobs, as the title includes—I will home in on what previous members have spoken about and raise for the record, if not for clarification by the minister in due course, a couple of issues in the bill. I refer to proposed new clause 8D, “Community development plan”, which appears in a number of the agreement acts. The explanatory memorandum states —

Requires the Company to prepare a plan which describes the Company's proposed strategies for achieving community and social benefits in connection with its activities under this Agreement.

I would be very interested if the Minister for State Development can describe in more detail the strategies for achieving community and social benefits in connection with a company's activities. Is it geographic? In this case, I think the company is Rio. Does it relate to activities specifically where they are undertaking their mining

or transport activities? Is it the jurisdiction? One thing I have learnt whilst investigating the issue about the impacts is that the social benefits need to accrue to the whole jurisdiction of Western Australia. That is my assessment. I say that because nearly 70 per cent, if not more, of the workforce flies in, depending on which project we are talking about. They fly in from many places, hopefully mostly from Western Australia, but we know the reality is that a lot of workers come from other parts of the country and even overseas.

I would be interested in an explanation of the community development plan. Will it be constrained by the geographic proximity of the project or by the reaching impact of the project? I even toyed with the thought that the environmental impact statement that is required under the environmental approvals chain, which goes hand in hand with a lot of these things, should in fact include a socioeconomic impact statement—I think it has such a provision, and I would be educated by those with more knowledge than I. It should describe in any amount of detail the effect that the project would have on the entire jurisdiction of Western Australia and its population and the effect on the families of fly in, fly out workers and the health and related benefits or disadvantages of FIFO workers, because that is an impact of the operation undertaken by the proponent covered under these bills. It also has an impact on skilled jobs and on the very heart of some of our industrial sector.

I talk of course about an area of particular interest to me. I have spent a lot of time visiting businesses in the Kwinana industrial area, which is typically bounded by Henderson, Naval Base, Kwinana, northern Rockingham and all the bits in between that we are all very familiar with. My understanding of the advice is that the Kwinana industrial area contributes magnificently to the benefits of the state. It produces \$17 billion worth of output value for the Australian economy. There is a multiplier effect of about five, so there are about 25 000 jobs for every one directly employed. I will cite that report in case I stand corrected on some of those figures. It was the Town of Kwinana's "Local Content for Significant Economic Developments 2011" paper. Across the state, the Kwinana industrial area would be the geographic area with the single highest concentration of employment and concentration of a dollar value.

I would also like to speak about the community development plan in proposed clause 8D. Although we talk about those jurisdictional issues and how far the jurisdiction reaches, the proposed clause provides that, at least three months before the anticipated submission of proposals relating to a proposed development, the company must give the minister information about how the proposed development may affect the community development plan as proposed. I take from that that the community development plan is flexible and is not necessarily set in concrete. I would be keen to understand the parameters by which it might be loosely agreed to and the remit or the flexibility of the minister to approve or disapprove.

My other point about reporting is that the company is required to report at least annually to the minister about the company's implementation of the plan. Whose responsibility is it if a report is to be required less than annually? Who dictates that—the proponent or the minister? If the minister is inclined to want a monthly or quarterly update, or at whatever interval he or she chooses in the future, what is the capacity under the agreement to compel the proponent to make good with that report? This raises another issue. We have had this good faith negotiation between the proponent and the government about what it is going to do in a community development plan.

I would be very keen to hear from the Premier about the ability of the state of Western Australia to compel the proponent to implement the plan. If, in the opinion of the minister of the day, the proponent is not reasonably enacting that plan, what is the penalty? Any agreement requires at its heart good faith bargaining and fair play. But, ultimately, we need to plan for a dispute as opposed to just accepting the possibility of the success of the plan. If the proponent fails to deliver on its community development plan in whole or in part, what capacity will the minister have to compel the proponent to do that? Secondly, if it has failed in the delivery of that plan, what penalty can be imposed by the state on the company to make at least recompense for the failure of that plan? The other issue about the community development plan that I would be particularly keen to hear about is: what is the metric by which it will be measured? What measurement will each of these community development plans be audited against, and who will do the auditing? I have just been passed a note that is of some interest, and I will draw the house's attention to it in due course.

The next part that I want to focus on is the local participation plan in proposed clause 8E in the bill. It requires the company to prepare a plan that describes proposed strategies that the company will use, and will require a third party supplier to use, to maximise the uses and procurement of materials and services in Western Australia. I congratulate the Premier on including that part about a third party supplier. One of the gaps in the procurement cycle and in the change in the global supply chain to major projects in the gas sector is that often when companies such as Chevron, Woodside and so on outsource to single-agency engineering, procurement and construction management contractors, they also outsource a large degree of their responsibility. As the Premier has said in this place before, I think it came as a surprise to the CEOs of those particular companies that the people they have appointed and awarded these multibillion-dollar contracts to as single-agency EPCM have, by default, reverted to their global supply chains, because it is the path they know the best and it is the easiest one to

work with rather than simply working with the existing industries in the jurisdiction that they are operating in. When Foster Wheeler, Bechtel Corporation and so on audit these massive contracts in downtown Houston, they simply walk around the block and do the deals with those companies that are also set up in downtown Houston because they are long established. There is nothing sinister about that; it is just learned behaviour.

The other point about the local participation plan is that the plan is to include detailed information on the procurement practices that the company will adopt in calling for tenders. This is at the heart of it. This is really where we are at. Again, as the Premier has said in this place and in other places, he has had personal experience in trying to intervene on the issue. It is no good just intervening on a personal level; I believe we must have sustainable public policy and sustainable legislative remedies which will transcend administrations and which will send a very clear message to business so that it has the certainty it is always seeking about the trading environment it will go into. I am talking specifically about how much a government does or does not get involved in the business of businesses. In the procurement practices of these large projects, how much ought the government get involved? We on this side of the house believe that the government should get a little more involved than it is currently to get a sustainable long-term effect. I note the Premier's words in 2003 in this place —

Any company can comply with the letter of the obligations of an agreement Act. The real issue is whether the minister—it is not a matter of answering questions—is willing to roll up his sleeves and become directly involved in the project and its procurement.

They were the Premier's own words when he was on this side of the chamber. Although I think he is attempting to give the effect of rolling up his sleeves and dragging a few CEOs down to Henderson, Naval Base and Kwinana—I will listen intently to any response he cares to give—what is the transparent effect of what he is doing? What is our capacity, as the elected representatives of the people of this state, to scrutinise the deals that this government has done on the state's behalf? There is nothing in these bills—unless the Premier can point me to it—that tells me about transparency. There is nothing in these bills that tells me—as any system of government in the Westminster system would—that the Premier will allow the opposition the opportunity on behalf of the people of Western Australia to place him under fair scrutiny. There is nothing in these bills.

After procurement, I go on further to say that this local participation plan will also include details of the communication strategies the company will use to alert Western Australian suppliers, manufacturers and contractors to services opportunities and procurement opportunities. Again, as the member for Rockingham outlined, the Premier might well have listened to the debates in this house, to the stakeholders that of course made representations to him at his office and to other ministers. Clearly, one of the things I have picked up on is the inability of our businesses to actually thread the needle to understand what is required in these projects. I am not talking about just large projects. I am also talking about smaller ones and the stuff through operational phase maintenance that are also included. Long after the construction phase in seven to 10 years is finished—or however long it goes—we will be left with sustainably maintaining these projects. I would be very keen to hear what the “communication strategy” actually means. I would also be very keen to hear how that dovetails into the plans for the revision or any renovation, if at all, of the Industry Capability Network. The ICN, I believe, is good but it is not good enough. ProjectConnect is good but it is not good enough. There is a real gap between the services offered in these portals with federal and state funds and what the businesses need. We have an industry out there that is patchy in the way it is innovated and the way it responds to the challenge of the rise in the Association of South East Asian Nations capability. Some have automated as much as they can and some have innovated as much as they can, but also there is the pure issue of scale. One of the biggest issues that we picked up on is that the capacity for Western Australian businesses to connect to each other in a like-minded, like-action way to come together to put a meaningful tender and a meaningful proposition to these project proponents is limited. I think there is fertile ground for a sleeves-up effort here on behalf of government to provide the extra muscle required to provide a service to the Western Australian industry that would allow it to come together a little better. I call it a dating agency on steroids, if members like. A consultant or a series of consultants bring those people together and make sure they are matched correctly in the room. There is often a mismatch in the room between a subordinate and a superior supplier when they are not similarly matched. It is really important that that is done at the outset. So, those are a couple of issues.

Although these bills are about iron ore agreements, I want to articulate a concern relating to the industrial economic vision for Western Australia. Where is our economy going? Where is our manufacturing sector going? Where are the opportunities for Western Australian businesses to reorientate themselves to a globally changing market?

Madam Acting Speaker (Ms A.R. Mitchell), I note that the chair has been vacated by the Speaker. No aspersions on you about what I was hoping for from the audience of the Speaker, but he just could not hang on long enough and I seek an extension.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr P.C. TINLEY: I am asking: what is changing? Clearly there was a historic occasion in the federal Parliament recently when the climate change tax was brought in. Regardless of where members sit on this issue or what their position is, it will be law—I do not think it has been proclaimed yet—and it will give the certainty that businesses wanted; although the federal opposition would have us believe otherwise and does all it can to get in the way of giving any certainty for business by talking about fanciful notions of repealing it all.

Mr M. McGowan: They won't repeal it.

Mr P.C. TINLEY: They will not repeal it; we know that.

We also know about the compensation and the effect of that compensation on households. With some indulgence, I will come to my point about how this relates to the bills. The biggest macro driver of our markets, which we all point to, is China. When we look at what China has been doing and at what China plans for its economy, we can see clearly that China is going to a low-carbon-emission economy. By any estimation, in our small state of almost 2.5 million people with a small manufacturing sector and a small other industry sector we ought to be looking at what is happening with one of our major trading partners and one of our major customers and asking what opportunity that presents. If my numbers are correct, we have a \$72 billion behemoth called the resource sector. The next nearest sector is either agriculture or education, but in value they are both in single digits. Too often we hear in the debate that we need another industry to offset the size or the impact of the resource sector. I do not at all subscribe to that view. It is not an either/or debate; we can have both.

I am asking: what in the resource sector can we go into and find opportunity to leverage from? I cite remote power generation using renewable or hybrids as one example, but where would that come from? Where would the expertise come from? Where would the entrepreneurial flair come from? A couple of companies in Western Australia set up 15 projects under the federal solar flagships program to fund the commercial gap between them. Mid West Energy, I think, was one, which out of all the ones I reviewed I thought was the most compelling. It was \$200 million short of being commercial in its set-up. However, it had off-take agreements with Mid West miners and a range of things technically going for it, but not one of those 15 projects got up under the solar flagships program. I suspect that it had more to do with the fact that Mid West Energy was not part of a network solution such as companies on the east coast. It might also be the general attitude on the east coast, particularly in the places where some of those decisions are made, that Western Australians are regarded as just a bunch of quarry hoppers who rip it, dig it and ship it. There is nothing further from the truth.

When we actually investigate what is happening inside the resources sector and look for these innovative opportunities, we find that they exist all over the place. One such example is what we call resource productivity—rather than what some as a distraction call labour productivity. Resource productivity refers to getting more out of each tonne. I visited Naval Base and looked at an iron ore beneficiation pilot plant being built there by a Western Australian company, GF Engineering. It was designed by an engineering company in Balcatta called MSB Projects, which had been in the engineering game for over 40 years. I talked to the people there and about how they stole the project from the proponent in India and took it over as a rapid prototype. It is a really good example of innovation. The beneficiation plant as a pilot plant will process about two million tonnes a year and go through the tailings and the overburden of the existing mines for one of the major iron ore producers. It will take a 58 per cent fee and bring it up to high-grade shippable ore that will be blended with the company's stockpiles. That is a good example of where I think our economy is going—from the old smokestack industries to a skilled services sector.

I do not see any vision for that skilled services sector in either the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011, the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011, the policies of the government, or even in the government's local industry participation framework. There is no mention of where the economy of Western Australia is going and what the government is doing about assisting industry to reorientate. We have done it with other industries. We did it in dairy and we should be doing it in a range of other livestock industries, and other parts of the industry. We did it in education, and I do not see why we would not do it in our manufacturing process.

We can look to see where China is going. A report published in *The New York Times* today states —

... China on Tuesday issued the most comprehensive document yet on its plans and negotiating positions on emissions.

The article continues —

The report said that China achieved a 20 percent reduction in carbon emissions between 2005 and 2010 —

That is 20 per cent; think of the size of that country —

and plans to cut another 17 percent by 2015.

Mr I.C. Blayney: I don't think you're right. Their carbon emissions go through the roof; what they are talking about is their efficiency.

Mr P.C. TINLEY: Correct; that is right. It is funny that the member should hit on that, because that is the key issue. As I said a couple of sentences ago, too often we talk about productivity on the basis of labour productivity and how much more we can get for the dollar spent on labour. We will never be cost competitive with Asia—not in our lifetime. Maybe we will be in the future, when its compliance input costs are the same as ours and it has compulsory superannuation and occupational health and safety and those sorts of things, but as things currently stand, we will never be cost competitive with Asia, particularly when a command economy like Vietnam or China sets the price on a range of subsidies. So, the report is not wrong, and the member is right; it is in relation to its efficiencies. We have to talk about the productivity of our resources, because it is, I think, the most fertile ground for opportunity because of the global trend to become more efficient with less. The member is right when he says China has achieved a 20 per cent reduction in carbon emissions between 2005 and 2010; straight out, it has, and it plans another 17 per cent reduction. But just to verify what the member has said, the article continues —

This means that while China's overall carbon emissions will rise along with its economic output, its industries will become more efficient.

Again, China is working towards becoming more efficient. It has made an informal statement that it would actually like to see its car industry produce a car without steel. Its ambition is not to buy more iron ore than it absolutely needs to; its ambition is to need it less. It is about its own security and economic future. China is up to its twelfth five-year plan. The tenth five-year plan was building infrastructure—it did it; the eleventh five-year plan was building cities—it is still doing that and it is finishing that off; and the twelfth is an economic planning document that was endorsed by the National People's Congress on 14 March 2011, and it was about climate change and energy. One of our major trading partners is moving to resource efficiency. Where in these bills and the local industry participation plan and the government's plan or vision does it say that we need to move to a skilled services sector because the global economic circumstances have changed, and this is how we are going to do it? The global economic outlook is for resource efficiency and productivity through those sorts of efficiencies. China will achieve it. China has the world's largest installed renewable energy generation plant; in the five years to 2010, energy consumption per unit of gross domestic product fell by 19.06 per cent, nearly meeting the 20 per cent goal set in the eleventh five-year plan.

The final point that is not attended to in these bills—I think it is remiss—is the idea of design and where the design of these is projects going. I am talking about all major proponents that undertake major projects, such as, particularly, the stadium and other public works that should be no less immune from the sort of scrutiny that is applied to resource project proponents. When we talk about design, we are talking about some of the issues that our companies have to face, and in my final few minutes I would like to turn a couple of documents, one of which is the Chevron specification document for modularised structural steel fabrication and welding. This is part of Chevron's standing engineering documents for all its construction, and for welding the document states —

All structural welding, materials and procedures shall be in accordance with AWS D1.1 “Structural Welding Code – Steel” —

Members might ask what is AWS D1.1. Under Chevron's rider documents, it is the American Welding Standards D1.1 and it covers what steel is to be used, how it is to be welded, the class of person who can do it, and so forth. Businesses in Kwinana, Naval Base, Kewdale, Balcatta and everywhere else have to comply with that to be competitive. They have to be able to weld to US welding standards—not only that, but also they have to meet the quality control issues.

I also hold in my hand a Woodside document entitled “Projects Division — Structural Steel Material Specification”. This is the standing document for all projects, unless otherwise waived by the chief engineer, that the company, or any of its suppliers, has to attend to. Under “Codes and Standards” the document states —

The following Codes and Standards shall be applicable.

They are API, American Petroleum Institute, and ASTM, American Society for Testing Materials, Standards. So, once again, businesses wishing to work for Woodside need to comply with the costs of adjusting to American petroleum standards, although there is an equivalent Australian standard. That is unfortunate and costly, and it is a roadblock. Something needs to be done about the standards.

Lastly, I have a Rio document. I hold in my hand the “Rio Tinto Iron Ore Expansion Projects Standing Specification for Fabrication and Assembly”, which states that —

All steel plate shall be Grade Q345 to Chinese Standard ...

That is another failure of this government.

MR J.C. KOBELKE (Balcatta) [8.17 pm]: I rise to make a few comments in support of the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011. I also seek to elicit some information from the Premier with respect to one aspect of matters contained within one of the bills. I will be mainly talking to the bill that applies to Rio—namely, the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011—but that, of course, crosses over with respect to BHP Billiton. I certainly want to commend the Premier on being able to increase the royalty rates, particularly those covering fines; it is of great advantage to the state. The previous government, under Alan Carpenter, had renegotiated how these fines royalties would increase, but the negotiations were not concluded and delivered. The current Premier was presented with a fantastic opportunity when BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto sought to combine their operations—something they could not do without the approval of the government of the day. I commend the Premier in having taken advantage of that opportunity to drive a good bargain for the state and get agreement to increase the royalty rates and bring the royalty rate for fines in line with that for lump ore; these bills are the fulfilment of that work. The Premier took the opportunity, and I think he generally got a good bargain, and a lot of detailed legal work would have gone into finalising these agreements before they appeared in this legislation.

In the second reading speech to the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011, the Premier stated —

To put this in context, Rio Tinto has announced its 333 million tonne per annum target expansion program for its iron ore expansion in the Pilbara, which is planned to be achieved by the end of 2015 and through an expansion of its mines, port and rail capacity at an estimated investment of about \$15 billion.

I have tried to read the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 but, honestly, I cannot understand them because they are too legalistic. They amend a detailed agreement act. I have a simple question for the Premier: did most of the major expansion projects require a tick-off by the government under the existing agreement, or could that be done through the Mining Act?

Mr C.J. Barnett: Under the agreements, yes, generally, but the main aspect that facilitates that is their ability to now combine and integrate their infrastructure from one agreement to another, which this legislation allows. That is what was holding them back.

Mr J.C. KOBELKE: Will that reduce their administrative complexities and costs?

Mr C.J. Barnett: It allows them to optimise volumes through rail and handling facilities and ports. They can shift ore from one agreement to another and it allows them to develop a whole system instead of doing it piecemeal.

Mr J.C. KOBELKE: I thank the Premier for that. Was a cost-benefit analysis done on that; and, if so, is it commercially confidential?

Mr C.J. Barnett: I am sure that the companies probably determined the value to them. I don't think the state government was in a position to do that. There were certainly long and hard negotiations. I think it is a fair result, in my judgement.

Mr J.C. KOBELKE: I certainly think it is fair. I am trying to get a rough measure of what the state has given and what the state has got back.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I do not think that the state, in reality, has given much away, but without the state allowing this integration of infrastructure, the companies could not do it. Essentially, I do not think that the state gave much away but we extracted a price for what we did do.

Mr J.C. KOBELKE: Could the benefits to the companies potentially be hundreds of millions of dollars?

Mr C.J. Barnett: No doubt about it.

Mr J.C. KOBELKE: I thank the Premier for that.

The bills also contain local participation and community development plans. Again, I commend the government for that. I believe that, generally, the two big players covered by this legislation have a fairly good record on that compared with some of the other players in the resources sector. Although we exhort them to do better, and I think they can do better, we must acknowledge that they have made reasonably good contributions to the community through their local participation practices but, of course, we would always like them to do more. Other members have spoken on that issue and, although I believe that is important, I do not want to delay the house.

Therefore, I will go straight to the matter that I am seeking to get a better understanding of, which is what will happen and what the potential trade-offs will be, because I cannot find anything on the public record that

explains it and nor is it contained within these bills. At almost the end of his second reading speech on these bills, the Minister for State Development says —

Other specific amendments include amendments to the Iron Ore (Yandicoogina) Agreement Act 1996 to allow a longer term deferral of Rio Tinto's further processing obligation as part of the Bungaroo water project.

This ties in with the growth in the Pilbara. Again I put on the record at the outset that the current government is putting a huge effort into developing the Pilbara and is to be commended for that. The amount of money going into developing sustainable cities and towns is a great objective in general and the government is putting considerable effort and resources into doing that and must be commended. However, I do not think the government has always handled it well because it does not plan and do things according to a proper planning strategy. An idea tends to be kicked off by the desires, initiatives and inspirations of a particular minister or the Premier and the projects tend to come unstuck at times because the government simply does not plan properly.

Before I come back to the specific issue of the variation that allowed the deferral of Rio Tinto's processing obligations as part of the Bungaroo water project, I will quickly go through this government's failure on the provision of water in the Pilbara. This government was elected in September 2008 and by May 2010 it had put up \$2.5 million for water projects to test the feasibility for what was to be done in the Pilbara. After 18 months in government, it suddenly realised that the provision of water would be a problem because of all the work being done in the Pilbara, the extra people who would be living there and the iron ore, oil and gas companies that were expanding at a great rate. The lights went on, it seems, after 18 months and the government decided that it had to do something. It called for expressions of interest and received 24 proposals, of which it funded nine at a total value of \$2.5 million in May 2010. Later that month, the then Minister for Water, Minister Jacobs, released the "Pilbara Regional water plan 2010–2030". This was a high-level but general document, although there was no commitment to major infrastructure. It was just a broadbrush approach to some of the issues and resources but it did not have a plan on how to bring those things together to deliver water to the growing industry demand and the growth of the cities. In July 2010, an expression of interest process was announced to identify water source options for the west Pilbara. Again, that was driven by the Pilbara Cities plan, the growing population and the growing demand for iron ore production, which would demand more water. Until October 2010 that area had been dry. Harding Dam and the Millstream water reserve, which are the two major water sources for Karratha, were not looking too good, so the government decided to build a desalination plant near Karratha at a cost of \$370 million to produce just six gigalitres of water a year. According to the original media statement—sorry, I do not know if it was a media statement, but the media covered the event because I think there was a cabinet meeting in Karratha at the time—the undertaking given to the media was that that would be commissioned in April 2013. In fact, *The West Australian* on 26 October 2010, in an article headed "\$370 million desal plant for Burrup Peninsula" said that construction would begin "almost immediately". That is not in quotes in the article, and perhaps the media got it wrong, but the impression created by the government at that time was that there was some urgency for the plant and that the government would have to build the very expensive desalination plant to produce a very small amount of water. The plant was to cost \$370 million to produce six gigalitres a year at a cost of about \$7 a kilolitre. That compares with the Kwinana desalination plant, which was built three or four years before and which cost \$387 million, including some of the integration infrastructure. The actual Kwinana plant therefore cost less than that amount. The Kwinana desalination plant produces 45 gigalitres at about \$1.50 a kilolitre. The Pilbara desalination plant is producing about one-eighth of the supply for about the same cost, although the costs would have escalated in that time. It is very expensive water, and the plant needed to be built because the government had not done the planning. The government suddenly found that the huge development driven by the resources companies in the area and the government's own planning to increase the population was not sustainable without doing something about the provision of water.

The announcement for the desalination plant occurred in October 2010. In December 2010, other media releases from government ministers said that the government could develop new housing lots in a number of towns throughout the Pilbara because the government had found more water. That water did not relate to the desalination plant, which would take at least three years to bring on stream, but to water efficiencies and improving some of the smaller sources that were available to supply the towns in the Pilbara. That was a stopgap measure to keep things going until the government could build the desalination plant and find other water sources that would produce more water and be more reliable.

We have seen throughout the whole history of this matter that the government has been caught out because it simply did not plan ahead. Having been the Minister for Water Resources in the previous government, I know that part of the problem was that the agreement acts with which we are dealing gave certain rights to the companies. Obviously they wished to protect their interests in that water because they needed it for their business. At the time I was the minister, we could not reach an agreement. Until the announcement of the desalination plant, this government clearly could not reach an agreement with the companies either. We now find that there is an agreement. The point I am coming to is that there has been very little explanation of that. Part of

the scenario that unfolded that gave the government a chance to do a deal with Rio Tinto—the deal certainly looks as though it will benefit both sides, but that is what I would like some more information on—is that we had a very good wet season in the north and Harding Dam filled and the Millstream aquifer was recharged. At the end of summer in May 2011, the government could announce that it was going to defer the desalination plant. I will quote from the *Pilbara News*, because again I could not find a media statement from the government saying that the government was going to save \$370 million because it did not need to build the small desalination plant. However, in the *Pilbara News* on Wednesday, 25 May 2011 was a story headed “‘No’ to Water Plant due to Heavy Rains”. I will read a couple of brief paragraphs of that article, if I may. It states —

“Harding Dam is currently at capacity while, before the cyclone season, it was only 20 per cent full,” Mr Marmion said.

“The Millstream aquifer, which is also used as a drinking water source for the West Pilbara Water Supply Scheme when required, has also been fully recharged by the very heavy 2010/11 wet season rains.

“Harding Dam at full capacity provides drinking water for up to two years, and in combination with the healthy state of Millstream, provided the Government with an unexpected opportunity to re-examine all options.”

That was a quote from the then Minister for Water, Hon Bill Marmion. The government got a window of opportunity; it had a couple of years because of the good rainfall, so it could shelve this very expensive desalination project and sit down to talk to Rio Tinto about how it might better align water resources with demand. Clearly, Harding River Dam and Millstream aquifer will not, in the longer term, provide sufficient water. The companies, in their expansion, were going to have to carry out mine dewatering, of which some water would be potable and some would not, and the potable water might not be conveniently located to where it is needed. There is a whole complex mix there of finding where the water is, where it can be provided to, and the costs involved in doing so. The government had an opportunity because of that very good wet season and knew that it had security of supply for a couple of years, so it was able to sit down and negotiate a more sustainable and cost-effective option.

The Minister for Regional Development and the Minister for Water put out a press release in September 2011 to say that a deal had been done; that deal is now part of the bills before the house. Again, I will quote very briefly from that media statement, which is headed, “Water supply secured for the West Pilbara”. It states —

Future water supplies for Karratha, Roebourne, Dampier and Wickham have been secured by a new agreement between the State Government and Rio Tinto Limited, leading to the deferral of a planned desalination project.

Regional Development Minister Brendon Grylls and Water Minister Bill Marmion said under the new agreement Rio Tinto would surrender its annual entitlement to water from the Millstream aquifer. Rio Tinto will develop its own alternative water supply from the Bungaroo Valley at an estimated cost to the company of US\$310million.

A bit further on the press release states —

Mr Grylls said that in return for surrendering its allocation from the Millstream water supply scheme it built 40 years ago, some of Rio’s secondary processing obligations under Agreements with the State would be amended. The State and Rio will jointly develop a proposal to upgrade the existing water supply infrastructure and increase its capacity.

My question is therefore: why have we not had any explanation of the details in this? I think it is actually important that the public understands what has been put in place. Rio is going to spend \$US310 million; I presume that some of that is unavoidable, because its current rights to Millstream will not meet its expansion. I assume that Rio Tinto needs more water and that it will therefore have to invest in infrastructure to provide the water it needs. The \$US310 million might be beyond the cost of simply replacing Millstream, but there is no explanation of that. I would like to have some understanding of what is actually proposed in the Bungaroo valley scheme. Where will the water come from? Will the water be totally a right for Rio? That might be a very good thing, but it is not explained. How much water is it likely to produce, and will it sustain the industry into the future? None of these questions have been answered.

It was also claimed in the media statement that the state government and Rio Tinto would jointly develop a proposal to upgrade the existing water supply infrastructure, but there is no detail on that. Are we just talking about the town supply there? Are we talking about the major delivery pipelines? I hope that the Premier can provide an explanation so that we can understand what is happening in the water arena, given that this issue is clearly, from his second reading speech, part of the bills before the house. Again, I confess that I have looked through the bills and I cannot find any detail that explains any of that. Of course, the technical detail in an agreement act would not necessarily go to an explanation, but I cannot even find how it is connected. The

Premier said in his second reading speech that it is, so it is clearly a matter before the house. I hope that we can have some explanation of that.

My last question—I will not seek an extension—is: given that the initial statements led people to believe that the desalination plant was going full speed ahead, did the cancellation of that project lead to any liabilities with the people who had been contracted to develop it? Was it not so far enough afoot that it could just be cancelled, and the Water Corporation had done some work that was not really going to be productive? I would like the Premier, in his response, to explain whether there were any outstanding liabilities that accrued from cancelling the desalination plant project in Karratha.

I strongly support what the Premier is doing here; I just think, in the interests of openness and transparency, that we should have a bit more explanation about what is happening in the water arena, given that one of these bills enables those changes to take place and to provide a better basis for the planning and supply of water in the Karratha area.

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe — Minister for State Development) [8.35 pm] — in reply: I thank members opposite for their comments and, in particular, their support for the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011 and the Iron Ore Agreements Legislation Amendment Bill 2011. I also thank the member for Rockingham as manager of opposition business for agreeing to these bills being treated as urgent legislation and, indeed, being debated cognately.

In response to some of the comments made by the member for Rockingham, it is true that the proposed merger of BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto's operations provided an opportunity for the state to renegotiate, first, concessions and then the difference between fines and lump royalties. They were long, extended negotiations—two rounds of them—and the company derived benefits but not, in my view, at any great real cost to the state. Of course, the state derives benefits in the form of income.

As has been explained by members, this is a two-stage increase in royalties for fines, from 5.625 per cent to 6.5 per cent next year and to 7.5 per cent the following year. In respect of that, the extra \$1.9 billion to be collected over the four years relates to a significant increase in the fines royalty rate. Although going from 5.625 per cent to 6.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent does not sound like much, it is actually a 40 per cent increase in the rate. Although the increases relate to the BHP and Rio agreements, the Minister for Mines and Petroleum will also administratively amend the rate for fines in the Mining Act. In other words, Fortescue Metals Group or any other producer will also pay the higher royalty rate, so the total of \$1.9 billion extra is not only from BHP and Rio; it is across the whole iron ore industry, although obviously the vast majority of it will come from BHP and Rio.

As to the assumptions made, fines and lump iron ore are now of equivalent value in the market, at around \$120. There are obviously vagaries—vagaries in iron ore prices, vagaries in production levels and vagaries in exchange rates—but these are relatively straightforward, conservative estimates. The state collects at present, in total, around \$4.2 billion in resources royalties. Iron ore is already the major component at \$3 billion, so it will become even more important.

The member for Rockingham also raised issues about benefits to the regional area. Under the royalties for regions program, this will be a bonanza for regional Western Australia, including the Pilbara. More money will flow through there, given the 25 per cent commitment.

Mr M. McGowan: I thought you excluded this.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: We are talking about a cap on the royalties for regions program, so there is a deferral. That will come to a future issue about a future fund.

Mr M. McGowan: But you excluded the increase in the royalties from the royalties for regions program.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: In the previous one, but this will flow through in due course, in my view, ultimately.

Mr M. McGowan: Ultimately?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Ultimately, yes, because there will obviously be some renegotiation of the royalties for regions package, and I expect that this will be in some way incorporated in it, but that is something for the future. For the moment it is not flying, because there is a cap on royalties for regions. However —

Mr M. McGowan: No, if I can just clarify that: that wasn't what the Minister for Regional Development announced. He said—or perhaps you said—in the budget that the increases to the royalty rates would be excluded from the royalties for regions programs in order to quarantine it for state debt.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Perhaps I might clarify that later for the member.

As members acknowledged, the local participation plan and the community development plan have been agreed and placed in this. Members will probably see the first explicit example of a community development plan when

the agreement act for Wheatstone comes before the Parliament. That plan has been negotiated between the state and Chevron and its partners on the advice of the local authority.

Mr M. McGowan: Are those local participation plans a good idea?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: A great idea; a wonderful idea. I give due credit to members opposite, who raised the issue of local participation. We do not necessarily agree on every aspect of it, but we have, as I foreshadowed in the Roy Hill agreement, listened to that and we will bring it into future agreements. That is exactly what we have done. I hope it works. I hope it does work better. As members have acknowledged, both BHP and Rio Tinto achieve very high rates of local participation, of around 85 to 90 per cent. If we can sustain that, I will be pleased. I give credit to the member for Rockingham and others. With respect to transparency, again I will look at that. I think we have to be careful. If these participation plans are to be made public, I know exactly what the companies will do; they will basically dumb down the plans. They will not include commercially confidential information; they will make them general statements and they will be of less value. I think members have to be very careful there. One method, which has already been used, is to report generally on local participation rates in projects. If members want to make it all public, they will get less information. That has been the experience in this sector for a long time. That, I guess, is a step yet to be taken.

The member for Rockingham raised other issues. He made some comments about this reflecting a move away from further processing. I do not believe it necessarily does. As I have said before, the model of further processing that was put in place during the 1960s has not achieved what people hoped for. We do not have a steel industry, we do not have a chemicals industry and so on. I believe the key is to attract the customers of the resource projects to set up their operations in Western Australia. We are seeing some progress taking place, albeit slowly. The key to that is energy costs, as mentioned by several speakers. Equally, the key is to have a developed industrial site with regular water, power, port facilities, rail facilities, a labour force and a township. If we can do that, it will lower the entry cost of a processing plant. That is what the state government is seeking to achieve.

Mr W.J. Johnston: At Hearson Cove, five sites are lying vacant. How far progressed are we on attracting industry to those sites?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I think there are good prospects that we will see a further industry go in there shortly and commit to that. That is an example of trying to develop a purpose-built site. That came out of the loss of some gas-to-liquids projects in the late 1990s and early 2000s, when the lack of a purpose-built site meant that the projects did not happen. Several projects went to places such as Trinidad and all over the world.

The outer harbour project involves a big investment by BHP. As they say, in reality it is probably bigger than its Roxby Downs project. The production limits have been lifted on this project. That is a substantial benefit to the company that it can basically trade out those obligations. Questions were raised about why we have rail crossing issues there. It is interesting. Often the government, and quite rightly, is criticised for delays in project approvals. I can say that some of the biggest delays and complications in the Pilbara have been disagreements between the companies—they have had nothing at all to do with the government. The thing they disagree over most is one rail line crossing another. This clause was put in at the behest of government to give it a stronger hand to force crossovers to be put in place, so that we do not get ridiculous situations of rail lines diverting for hundreds of kilometres simply because two companies cannot agree. It is not always government that is the cause of delays or inefficiencies.

I will come back to Bungaroo later, because other members spoke about it.

The member for Cannington spoke about training needs. If he wishes, I will try to get him some further information on training done by these two companies. I do not have that readily available. Although he did not mention it, I think he would also agree that these companies are the largest employers of Aboriginal people in Australia. That is significant. They also have a responsibility for the training and development of their staff.

There were also some issues about applying future funds and the like. I think there is substantial merit in that. We can have a future fund in two forms. We can either develop a natural resource and put the money in the bank or leave the natural resource in the ground. Each can achieve the same purpose. That is something that maybe the Gillard government does not understand. There has been an element of planning for the future out of these negotiations. From the first round of negotiations with BHP and Rio Tinto, members will recall that \$350 million was put into a Treasury account for the purpose of funding the children's hospital. That has been progressively topped up and now stands at \$575 million, which will basically pay for the construction of the building but not its fit-out. Also, we have put \$70 million aside for the stadium. Although we are still 18 months to two years away from construction starting, we will continue as a government to pre-fund those two projects basically out of our mining royalties. That is an element of developing a more formal future fund. Our ability to do that will very much depend on what happens with issues such as the GST.

The member said that he thought the royalty deal was a good deal. I agree; I think it is a good outcome. He commented on energy. I agree that security of energy supply and price is probably the most critical economic issue for the state. Although I do not claim things will get better immediately, a number of projects are now coming on that will significantly increase gas supply into Western Australia. As an aside, I think there are a lot of reasons to be very encouraged about onshore gas in the Canning Basin. Although it is tight gas, it is clearly a very, very large resource. It may not be developed for some time, but it provides long-term energy security for domestic supply in this state.

The member for Cockburn indicated his support for the bill and talked about local participation, which he has done before. He raised the issue of other leases and tenures coming under the agreements. I have been advised that they relate only to infrastructure, which I think will placate him. His concerns were with the mining leases. I perhaps misled him at the time, but it is infrastructure leases—railway leases and the like—that will come under the agreement acts that are not already there.

I think the Bungaroo water situation is a good outcome. The member for Balcatta raised that issue in his comments. He is right. We did, as a government, commit to a desalination plant. It was a somewhat rushed decision. Karratha was running out of water and at the time we had little option. I agree. At the time everyone realised that this was not a very good outcome. As it happened, a couple of cyclones came through and filled up the Millstream aquifer and the Harding River Dam. That gave us time and allowed the negotiations with Rio to progress. I think Rio, to its credit, became increasingly aware that it had a corporate responsibility to independently supply its own water needs. The argument was run by the member for North West and others that it was not particularly acceptable to see the water from Millstream being used to suppress dust on stockpiles when the town was running out of water. I think that played out in the background. In addition, the state indicated its willingness to negotiate some of the further processing agreements. That was probably a new dimension that came into it. I think that Bungaroo also formed part of Rio Tinto's forward planning for increasing its iron ore production. I guess, in a sense, all the ducks lined up. The proposal is that Rio will build an 80-kilometre pipeline connecting Bungaroo to Millstream, and Rio and the state will share an upgrade to the pipeline to Karratha. Rio Tinto's water will now effectively come from Bungaroo. It all goes in the same pipe, but its water allocation will come from Bungaroo. That will free up the water from Millstream for use in the town and other purposes, and basically secures the water supply for both industry—Rio Tinto—and Karratha for quite a period into the future. That buys time and allows projects like Pilbara Cities to proceed knowing that there is a water supply. There are other issues. Onslow is an example

Mr J.C. Kobelke: Do you have an indicative cost of duplicating or doubling the pipeline from Millstream to Karratha?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: No, I do not, but I will endeavour to provide that to the member. I will find that later.

The member for Cockburn made comments about processing in Qatar and the like. Yes, there is a lot of processing in Qatar. But the price of gas in Qatar is extremely low, if not close to zero, and when it produces oil and other products, and it has such vast gas reserves that it can basically price gas at next to nothing—50c, or whatever, compared with \$7 or \$8 a litre here—it will attract gas-intensive industries. That works for Qatar. I do not think it is a model that we can use here.

The member for Willagee talked about environmental assessment and argued, I think, that there should be a social impact component. I do not deny the importance of social impact. But I do, in my mind, make a distinction between the two. An environmental assessment should be an environmental assessment. In my view, it should be scientifically based and objective, and should stand on its own merits, good or bad. If we start to include in that social impacts, we will, by definition, get into subjective areas and value judgements. I think a social impact assessment, if it is to be done, should not be part of an environmental assessment. An environmental assessment is basically a scientific and technical exercise and should be conducted and seen as such. But obviously more social impact assessments are being done; for example in the Browse liquefied natural gas precinct.

Mr P.C. Tinley: Is it going to be constrained to the geographic location, or is it going to have a wider reach in the rest of Western Australia?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: It will primarily be in that geographic location. We might get into fly in, fly out, but I think that is a related, but separate, issue. On a project such as the Browse LNG precinct, clearly there will be a social impact of that, hopefully a good one, but some would argue a bad one. I think most of the iron ore expansions are basically in an iron ore province. I do not see major implications. An area such as Wheatstone, where we are bringing a new project into a small community, clearly has a social impact.

The member referred to rolling up our sleeves and getting involved. That is necessary. I think most ministers in mining or resources have done that from time to time; I think it needs that. We cannot put down in legislation or procedures or processes something that will cover every contingency. Sometimes it requires nothing more than a

bit of commonsense and getting involved. A recent example I would think was significant was taking the four CEOs to Kwinana.

Mr M. McGowan: How recent was that?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: This year, twice—not bad. I can give other examples. I am not boasting. Other ministers who have held the portfolio could do the same. On the topside modules for the Laminaria project, I remember being directly involved with the unions and the companies in having that work done at North Fremantle quay. That was quite a big job and a lot of work. It helped a few companies to survive at a difficult time. Another example is that the towers for the Albany wind farm were to be built in India, and I intervened as a minister and got them built here. I do not think we can plan for that. It is just a matter of getting involved. There will always be a role for a minister and a department to simply do what is commonsense and practical.

Comments were made about the future of manufacturing. That is probably a debate that I do not think directly relates to this, but it is an important issue. Whatever one might think about the carbon tax, I believe it is a real threat to Australian manufacturing jobs. Although the Gillard government hopes that industry will adjust to cleaner energy forms or will put in more energy-efficient methods of production, I fear that for many companies, the simplest solution will be to close the Australian plant and import the product, or establish a plant offshore. In Australian manufacturing, we are generally talking about old plants and old equipment. So that will be the temptation. Ironically, I happen to believe that the future of much of Australian manufacturing will be in Western Australia, and that the mining state will increasingly come to be seen as the manufacturing state. That is not understood in Canberra. It is certainly not understood on the east coast. But they may be in for a surprise over the next few years.

Comments were also made about design and engineering. If we take a company such as Chevron, which the member for Willagee referred to, this is Chevron's first big project in Western Australia in which it has been an operator. It is hardly surprising that its engineering and design will be coming out of Houston. It will be similar to what it has done elsewhere around the world. I think that although Chevron has two huge projects underway in Western Australia, it has something like 30 or 40 projects around the world in excess of \$1 billion in value. So those projects will clearly have a consistency. We will have to work with that and make sure it does not discriminate. Equally, local fabricators will have to reach that standard or specification. There will have to be a bit of movement on each side. But again, if I can use Chevron as an example, Chevron is very quickly building up its staffing and professional expertise in Perth. The company told me the other day that 25 per cent of the work done in Perth is actually for projects overseas. So, Chevron is not only doing its local projects, but also using the expertise it has built up here for projects offshore. Another example we have talked about in recent weeks is the Western Australian mining services sector, which is the major player now in the development of the African mining industry. So, the world is becoming more global. Hopefully, companies will relax some of their specifications and the local fabricators will rise up and meet them. I actually believe that will happen, but there might be a bit of heartache along the way.

The member for Balcatta, again, like other members, supported the legislation. He commented on local content. I think I have answered the questions on desalination and water, which were his main points. It was fortuitous. Had it not rained, we probably would have been building a desalination plant in Karratha. That plant would have been very expensive, and it would have looked pretty silly if the rain had come halfway through construction. We can be lucky in this world—not only did it rain, but it rained in time!

Mr J.C. Kobelke: Some of the other states, like Queensland, have spent a huge amount on desal, and it rained, so they did not need it.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: As an example, if I quote the Victorian Premier correctly, the desalination plant in Victoria costs Victorian taxpayers something like \$4 million a day, and they will probably never use the water from it.

Mr P. Papalia: You should give Graham Jacobs the credit for all that praying!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Well, it paid off!

Mr M. McGowan: And then you sacked him!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Well, life can be cruel!

To my knowledge, I do not think there was any liability or penalty on the Water Corporation as a result of that. There had always been plans, as members know, for a desalination plant in Karratha, and a decision was made, shortly after it rained —

Mr J.C. Kobelke: There was already one there, but that was built for the plant on the Burrup.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: A small one, yes.

I think that answers most of the questions. I know there are some proposed amendments. I just want to make the point—I think members opposite understand this—that although there is a facilitating bill, and in theory that can

be amended, it relates to a signed and agreed variation that cannot be amended. That does not stop members from moving amendments, or at least discussing them. But there is no scope to change the actual variation agreement. That has been signed, and that is now legally binding on the companies and the state. I thank members for their support of the bill.

Question put and passed.

Bill (Iron Ore Agreements Legislation (Amendment, Termination and Repeals) Bill 2011) read a second time.

Leave denied to proceed forthwith to third reading.

IRON ORE AGREEMENTS LEGISLATION (AMENDMENT, TERMINATION AND REPEALS) BILL 2011

Consideration in Detail

Clauses 1 to 4 put and passed.

Clause 5: Section 4D inserted —

Mr M. McGOWAN: Obviously this is the clause that we will attempt to amend first up. We have a range of amendments that I have given to the Premier to show to his advisers the general intent of what we are trying to do. The amendments are roughly similar. They attempt to amend the legislation, not the agreement act, so that the local participation plans that are provided for under the act will be made public. The amendments will ensure that there is that transparency that allows for public scrutiny and for both the government and the companies that are the beneficiaries of these bills to be held accountable for whatever local participation plans they sign up to. In simple terms, this is an effort to ensure that everyone knows what people are doing and whether or not commitments are being adhered to. That is the intent of the amendments. As I said in my speech on the second reading, they are an attempt to ensure that there is transparency, which I think is lacking. The Premier may have even said in his commentary that there is an increasing degree of social responsibility, and perhaps economic responsibility, on the part of the corporations. I think that has come about as a result of this ongoing discussion around local content in the past couple of years. It has culminated in a group of CEOs going down to Kwinana and issues of that nature. We would like to continue that sense of transparency and accountability beyond this period. If and when this debate dies down, we would like there to be some lasting legacy of this debate. That lasting legacy would be that the public is continued to be informed of the outcome of the local participation plans and can continue to hold both the government and the companies accountable for those outcomes.

If I have misread the agreements and if they include the capability or the requirement, more importantly, for these local participation plans and the community participation plans to be made public, that would be a good thing and we would be happy with that outcome. I do not think there is that requirement, even though, by discretion, the minister may well decide to release those documents. We have had evidence in the past with other state agreements whereby those reports required by various state agreements are not made public. We are suggesting that the government—we have had these amendments very professionally drafted—ensure that there is a requirement for those reports to be made public. As the Premier acknowledged in his speech, the idea of local participation plans has been around since at least September last year when the Railway (Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd) Agreement Bill 2010 was before Parliament. As everyone who listened intently to that debate will recall, there was a requirement under that bill to make those agreements transparent. I know that the Premier has largely looked at and copied those amendments but I did not see that transparency requirement in the latest agreements. I will be interested to know whether the government intends to make those matters public.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: As I said during the second reading debate, with respect to both the community development plan and the local participation plan, I am prepared, with the agreement of the companies, to give reports to Parliament from time to time. Given the recent debate, the Minister for Commerce had tabled an assessment of local participation across the whole range of state agreement projects and other projects. It is not intended, and the government does not agree, to table the detail of those plans. There will be elements of corporate strategy within them. I made the point before that we want the companies to be very forthright. That may involve commercial-in-confidence information from their point of view about the timing of the developments, the strategy and even technology that they might use, and they will be understandably protective of that. On an agreed basis it is reasonable that reports made to Parliament be made public from time to time. We do not agree with the amendment that basically prescribes that they must be tabled in Parliament.

Mr M. McGOWAN: We will be dividing on this clause because we regard it as an important, if not crucial, part of the bill. I understand the Premier's argument. He is saying that the companies may not put information in either the local participation plan or the community development plan unless they know that it will remain confidential in some circumstances, and that is a reasonable argument. The stronger argument is that they will be more accountable and they will be keener to perhaps meet the needs of the state and the public if what they are proposing in those documents is to be made public, and they will probably put more effort into it. It is not the best of analogies but it is certainly something that the companies would not be at all shy about. As I said before, we have had some experience where these agreements have not been released and at times they were not even

subject to FOI because they go into the cabinet process and therefore we cannot get access to them in some circumstances because of cabinet confidentiality issues that exclude it from the FOI process. In any event, we will be dividing on this clause. I would like to see some greater transparency. I acknowledge that when the Premier negotiated these agreements, it would have been better for these matters to be incorporated in them and it would have certainly been in keeping with the intent of the original proposals as contained within the Roy Hill bill.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I just add that there will be an element of time here. Some of these plans—say, a community development plan—will change over time. The best example of a new project will be Wheatstone when it comes to Parliament, and there will be broad allocations for community facilities but not yet determined, and that is a matter of discussion between the company, the state and the local authority. I hope you understand that point. They will not all be determined over the life of the project from day one but there will be a broad commitment and there will be dollars attached to that.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I appreciate that. I think that is part of the history of some of these projects. I am pleased to see Wheatstone will be doing some things in, I assume, Onslow. I think that is also the case with this agreement; it is renewed on a regular basis or is expanded upon on a regular basis, as I recall. I assume that the local participation plan may change over time depending upon circumstances. In any event, I think we get the general gist of the Premier's point of view and he gets the general gist of our point of view.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I have given an undertaking, with the agreement of the companies, to report from time to time on the progress of these plans.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Will the Premier release the initial agreement?

Mr C.J. Barnett: No.

Mr M. McGOWAN: So the initial agreement will not be released?

Mr C.J. Barnett: That is right. There might be some description of it, but not the fine detail; otherwise, we will not get the detail that we want in it.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I think we will just divide on that.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Rockingham, you have not formally moved your amendment.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I move —

Page 4, lines 24 and 25 — To delete the lines and substitute —

- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the implementation of the Seventh Variation Agreement is authorised.
- (3) The Minister is to lay (or cause to be laid) the local participation plan, and any subsequent amendments to it, provided under clause 7E of this Agreement before both Houses of Parliament within 2 weeks after the plan or amendments are provided to the Minister.

Amendment put and a division taken with the following result —

Ayes (16)

Dr A.D. Buti
Ms J.M. Freeman
Mr W.J. Johnston
Mr J.C. Kobelke

Mr F.M. Logan
Mr M. McGowan
Mrs C.A. Martin
Mr M.P. Murray

Mr A.P. O'Gorman
Mr P. Papalia
Mr E.S. Ripper
Mr C.J. Tallentire

Mr P.C. Tinley
Mr A.J. Waddell
Mr M.P. Whitely
Mr D.A. Templeman (*Teller*)

Noes (27)

Mr F.A. Alban
Mr C.J. Barnett
Mr I.C. Blayney
Mr J.J.M. Bowler
Mr I.M. Britza
Mr T.R. Buswell
Mr G.M. Castrilli

Mr V.A. Catania
Dr E. Constable
Mr M.J. Cowper
Mr J.M. Francis
Mr B.J. Grylls
Dr K.D. Hames
Mrs L.M. Harvey

Dr G.G. Jacobs
Mr R.F. Johnson
Mr A. Krsticevic
Mr J.E. McGrath
Mr W.R. Marmion
Mr P.T. Miles
Ms A.R. Mitchell

Dr M.D. Nahan
Mr C.C. Porter
Mr D.T. Redman
Mr M.W. Sutherland
Mr T.K. Waldron
Mr A.J. Simpson (*Teller*)

Amendment thus negated.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 6: Eighth Schedule inserted —

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: I would like to ask a question about the community development plan as referred to on page 8 of the bill. Proposed clause 7D states —

- (1) In this Clause, the term “community and social benefits” includes:
- (a) assistance with skills development and training opportunities to promote work readiness and employment for persons living in the Pilbara region of the said State;

Given that BHP Billiton Ltd principally uses a fly in, fly out workforce, are any training obligations expected under the community development plan for people not living in the Pilbara region? Perhaps the Premier might make a comment more broadly about that figure of, I think, 175 apprentices and trainees that BHP Billiton’s iron ore division has. Does the government see 175 as a sufficient number for a company of its scale or is there an expectation that the number will be higher than that, particularly given that the figures the department provided to me show that the number of apprentices and trainees with Rio Tinto Ltd is much, much higher than the number employed by BHP Billiton?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The member may be right in his last comment, but I think it needs to be acknowledged that BHP has a very large resident Pilbara workforce in both Port Hedland and Newman in the form of some of the satellite areas. I can confirm that Rio Tinto employs 298 apprentices and has 499 trainees. BHP has around 175 trainees and apprentices. So, yes, I guess it could be concluded from that that Rio has more people in training than BHP.

Mr W.J. Johnston: Are you satisfied with BHP or do you think it should do better?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I think that BHP could probably do better. The community development component is obviously concentrated on the Pilbara. The other point that might be related to this is Indigenous employment. Both companies do well in that area and both are setting out to do better. Both companies will go through periods of rapid expansion. We need to be conscious of not confusing the expansion stage with the ongoing operations. The long-term rewards are getting more training apprenticeships and local employment in the operational stages. We should not be overly distracted by construction phases.

Mr M. McGOWAN: At the bottom of page 17, the bill provides the value of the increase in the royalty rates to be applied as a consequence of this agreement. We had a little debate a few minutes ago—I think the Premier indicated that it would be clarified during the consideration in detail stage—about what would happen with the increase in the royalties and the spend in the country. The Premier’s words were that this would be a boon for the Pilbara region because all those additional royalties would be subject to the royalties for regions plan and therefore 25 per cent of the increase of \$1.9 billion over three years would go into the royalties for regions plan and, presumably, some would go into the Pilbara.

My recollection is that in the state budget the Premier quarantined the increase in royalties from the royalties for regions program. That therefore meant that roughly \$500 million was quarantined within the royalties for regions program; and that \$500 million was quarantined to assist the government with its significant debt problem. Therefore, the Premier has said two different things. Two minutes ago he said that this would be a boon and that the issue was actually the implementation of the \$1 billion cap, which would mean that some of this money would not go in; whereas I am absolutely positive that that is not the issue. The issue is that the Premier changed the royalties for regions arrangement in the state budget. The change to the royalties for regions agreement in the state budget was actually in my view a renegeing of the original basis upon which the Premier formed government, because that was fixed at 25 per cent of royalties, which is not what is being delivered. I am therefore keen for an explanation from the Premier of exactly what will go in here, because the Premier then indicated that he would see it all being resolved and all this money eventually going to regional areas which, according to the state budget, is not what will happen.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I will clarify. Under the existing legislation, as the member knows, 25 per cent of the additional royalty revenue will be appropriated to the royalties for regions fund. The member is correct: the Minister for Regional Development and the Treasurer did agree that additional funds from the source are not to be drawn down over the period of the forward estimates, but to be quarantined for debt reduction purposes. That does not say what will happen after that forward estimates period. I expect there will be some renegotiation of the royalties for regions, which will involve how the cap operates, whether extra royalty income such as this is allocated to other purposes in regional areas, or indeed whether it is preserved in a future fund for regional development. Those matters are yet to be resolved, but the member is right: this is to be quarantined for the immediate coming period.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: I am interested in the \$1.9 billion that is estimated in the budget papers to result over the four years of the forward estimates. How much of that is expected to be clawed back by the GST process, and how much net benefit will be available for the people of Western Australia?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I will do it year by year as that is perhaps easier. Over this period not a great deal in the sense is lost to the state because the Commonwealth Grants Commission process, as the member knows, tends to lag.

Mr W.J. Johnston: Yes.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: So if we look at 2012–13, the estimated increase in royalty revenue is \$378 million; net of GST will be the same, \$378 million. In 2013–14, gross royalty income is estimated at \$824 million; net of GST, \$824 million. So, again, there is no impact. In the third year, 2014–15 it starts to cut in, so gross revenue is estimated at \$817 million; net revenue after GST, \$722 million, and it will cut in more in years to come. So over the forward estimates period, basically, almost all of it is preserved for the state.

Can I just make a comment? Sometimes I think there is a little bit of careless language around the media and indeed even within Parliament about how the GST and royalties interact. Sometimes we hear expressions that we are only left with a little bit or it is redistributed away. What I think we need to be very clear on is that no royalty income is redistributed away. The royalty income comes into state Treasury and stays in state Treasury; so that is untouched by anyone. What happens, of course, is that the GST share is reduced. Sometimes the impression is given that the commonwealth actually takes some of the royalty revenue. It does not and it cannot. That is why a dollar of royalty revenue is actually better and more value to Western Australia than a dollar of federal grants, because it is totally unencumbered; it is real money and we control it.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I am going to have to answer that.

Mr C.J. Barnett: You've got to agree!

Mr M. McGOWAN: I appreciate the fact, and I support the fact that the state gets its royalties and it is a payment that the state receives from the value of the minerals in the ground. That is why it increases—because the value of our exports has been going up. I think three or so years ago the total royalty take of the state was something less than \$2 billion and now it is in excess of \$4 billion, from the last set of budget papers that I recall.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Yes, \$4.2 billion.

Mr M. McGOWAN: So, it went from \$1.8 billion to \$4.2 billion. That is not because there has been an explosion in the number of projects; there has actually been a small increase in the number of projects.

Mr C.J. Barnett: No.

Mr M. McGOWAN: There has. The Premier is just not on top of things. I had to explain to him before exactly how this royalties for regions program is going to work and now I have to explain to him the number of new projects out there.

Mr C.J. Barnett: No, there has primarily been a price increase.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Yes, it is from price increases.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Yes. The volume increases are coming in a large way.

Mr M. McGOWAN: New projects?

Mr C.J. Barnett: New projects and expansion projects.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Yes, there might be expansion projects.

Mr C.J. Barnett: There are actually new ones.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I might have told the house this before but I will tell the house again, even though I am sure everyone remembers: since September 2008, 29 new mines have opened, according to Hon Norman Moore in answer to a question on notice in June this year. According to the same answer, over the seven and a half years prior to that, 170 new mines opened. So it averages out over the seven and a half years prior to that at 23 new mines a year, and over the last three years it has been 10 mines a year. There has not therefore been a massive expansion in new mines. By South Australian standards, 29 new mines over three years is good, but by Western Australian standards over the last 10 years it is not as good.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I think you have to concede the investment side at the moment is unprecedented.

Mr M. McGOWAN: It is on its way up again.

Mr C.J. Barnett: No, it is absolutely unprecedented.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Gorgon and Wheatstone are big projects; there is absolutely no doubt about that. But I outline to the Premier—I do not want to have to do it again—the 170 new mines. I do not think Hon Norman Moore would have misled me—although I am pretty sure he would like to if he could—in the parliamentary answer that he gave me. There were a number of parliamentary answers in which I teased out this information. For instance, in the 2004–05 financial year, 33 new mines opened in Western Australia. In 2005–06, 27 new mines opened. As the Premier can see, that is a fairly significant number of new mines, and some are quite major new mines. Of course, in the last three years, Boddington, for instance, was opened—something that had been in train for a fairly long period—and a few other ones. Some I had not heard of before; for instance, Nullagine iron ore mine does not mean much to me. However, a few have opened and no doubt by Australian standards that is a good thing. However, that was not the point I was going to make.

The point I was going to make is about royalties. Of course we get a payment for the value of the minerals, and the expansion in mining largely of iron ore from existing mines has meant the value has been very big. I toured around Port Hedland harbour the other day and I saw the ships. There has been a massive expansion in capacity and so forth, and that has increased the royalty take. Of course the state getting that money is fantastic. However, I suppose I regard it as rather a moot point that the government has a dollar in its wallet that is a royalty dollar or a dollar in its wallet that is given to it by the commonwealth for it to spend as it sees fit. If I have two \$1 coins in my wallet and one is given to me by royalties and one is given to me by the commonwealth government, they still only buy me a packet of chips. I do not know whether it is the government's argument that that packet of chips it receives from the \$1 from the royalties tastes better or is of some higher value than the packet of chips it receives from the \$1 given to it by the commonwealth. I think it is a bit of a moot point. I think the point people make in terms of redistribution away is that it is the easiest way of explaining what happens. It is not actually the royalty that gets redistributed away; it is the decline in the commonwealth grant to the state.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Yes, but I am just trying to make the point that often it is confused. Often sometimes the impression is given that the commonwealth takes the royalty income.

Mr M. McGOWAN: It does not.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Of course it does not. I am just saying that we need to avoid careless language like that; it creates the wrong impression of the process.

Mr M. McGOWAN: If that is the Premier's view, but if the state gets money, from wherever it gets money, as long as it gets money.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: I am very interested in the member for Rockingham and I am interested to hear from him further.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. Member for Rockingham, but I ask you to please stay on the clause and not to wander.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I think the member for Cockburn is getting sick of the point I am making as well!

In any event, I understand the point the Premier is making. I have heard the Premier say before—I think I heard him say it today—that if there is a profits-based tax and what have you, we get nothing for the resource, but as I understand it, under a profits-based tax, the royalties system would still be in place. Again, I did not quite understand the point the Premier was trying to make.

Mr C.J. Barnett: No, no, the original proposal —

Mr M. McGOWAN: That was never accepted by the commonwealth, because it would have —

Mr C.J. Barnett: No, no; the original proposal —

Mr M. McGOWAN: But from Ken Henry?

Mr C.J. Barnett: The original proposal of Prime Minister Rudd was that there would be no royalty system, and an equivalent amount would be refunded from the resource super profits tax. So, there was to be no royalty; there was to be simply a profits tax, but an equivalent of the royalty would be refunded to the states. If a company made no profit or made a loss, there would be no payment.

Mr M. McGOWAN: If that was the point the Premier was making, it was a fair point.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Yes.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 7 and 8 put and passed.

Clause 9: Section 5D inserted —

Mr M. McGOWAN: We moved our amendment, and we were going to move the exact same amendment to all the other clauses. Had we been successful in the first amendment, then of course we would be so doing. But I think the vote was fairly emphatic, and it might have been tipped a little bit even further out of balance by events earlier today.

Mr C.J. Barnett: A couple of early wickets!

Mr M. McGOWAN: The interesting turn of events earlier today might have made it slightly more emphatic. I am not going to argue that it would have been a different outcome, but in any event, there is little point in us proceeding with the amendments. I put on the record again that we believe transparency is important in this area.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 10 to 23 put and passed.

Schedule 1 put and passed.

Title put and passed.

House adjourned at 9.33 pm

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions and answers are as supplied to Hansard.

NGALLAGUNDA ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY — SEWAGE ISSUES

6292. Mr T.G. Stephens to the Minister for Housing

In relation to the sewage issues affecting housing at Ngallagunda Aboriginal Community as a result of the recent flooding, will the Minister advise:

- (a) what plans does the Minister have to fix the issue in the short term given the immediate impact it has on the health and safety of residents;
- (b) does the Minister have a long term plan to fix this issue, and if yes what is it and when will it start?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Housing advises:

- (a) The Department of Housing, through its Remote Area Essential Services Program, restored the house septic systems to full working order after the 2011 wet season generated flood.

The Department also approached the West Australian Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements program but was advised that funding was not available for betterment works to install a community sewage system.

The Department has recently been liaising with the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley in regard to possible engineering solutions to the flooding issues at the Ngallagunda community.

- (b) The Department has raised and continues to raise this issue with the Commonwealth Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs in acknowledgement of its responsibility for essential and municipal services infrastructure and upgrades in remote discrete Indigenous communities. The Member would be aware that the Federal Department has jurisdiction over this issue, rather than the State Government.

COALFIELDS HIGHWAY — UPGRADE WORKS

6293. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Transport

I refer to upgrade works of the Coalfields Highway, and ask:

- (a) what is the total cost of the upgrades;
- (b) did the Minister receive advice concerning the cost of making the highway a complete, or near complete, dual carriageway; and
- (c) if yes to (b) what was the cost of making the highway a complete, or near complete, dual carriageway?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

It is pleasing that the Members opposite are finally recognising and acknowledging the work being done on the Coalfields Highway by this Liberal–National Government.

The Member's question is predicated on the fact that unlike the previous failed Labor Government, the current Liberal–National Government is actually funding and getting on with significant improvements to sections of the Coalfields Highway. Unfortunately the road was severely neglected. It is worth noting that apart from the current Government's \$25m investment, the last upgrade works were undertaken by the former Court Liberal Government.

- (a) The Liberal–National Government has committed about \$25m to upgrades on the Coalfields Highway.
- (b) No
- (c) Not applicable

PRISONERS — SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

6294. Mr F.M. Logan to the Minister for Corrective Services

- (1) How is a prisoner assessed to determine their security classification level and therefore which prison will suit their security requirements?
- (2) Who assesses a prisoner to determine their security classification level?

- (3) What checks and balances are in place to ensure that a prisoner is classified correctly?
- (4) What is the total assessment process (including psychiatric and medical reviews) to determine the security classification of a prisoner?
- (5) How does an Individual Management Plan for a prisoner with a sentence over six months differ from an assessment for a prisoner that is incarcerated for less than six months?
- (6) Does this process differ for privately run prisons and publically run prisons and if so, how?
- (7) What is the process of assessment for a prisoner deemed suitable for a work camp?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (1) All prisoners within Western Australia are assessed using the Department of Corrective Services' (the Department) approved assessment system. The Department's Adult Custodial Rule (ACR) 18 relates to the Assessment and Sentence Management of prisoners in Western Australia and provides clearly defined and consistent procedures for the initial and ongoing assessment and sentence management of prisoners within the Western Australia prison system at both public and private facilities. Where practicable, prisoners are placed as close as possible to family, friends and/or significant others in order to promote family, community and social support. It may however be required that they be placed outside of this to facilitate the determined security ratings, health or medical issues or to enable access to programs or other facilities or services such as legal or counselling requirements.
- (2) Assessment officers within each facility complete documentation within the Assessment and Case Management system that advise a prisoner's security rating.
- (3) Each document completed by an Assessment officer is reviewed by a senior assessment staff member whose responsibilities include the quality control and review of such documentation. Further, the approving authority for each document reviews and approves the document which results in the change or re-confirmation of a prisoner's security rating. There is provision for a prisoner to appeal the decision and the appeal is considered by the next highest level of authority above the initial approving authority.
- (4)–(5) Different processes occur for sentenced prisoners depending on the length and type of sentence they are given by the Court.

When a prisoner is received into a prison within Western Australia they are automatically classified by the Department's Total Offender Management Solution system (TOMS) at the highest security rating available at that receiving prison. In all cases this is Maximum Security. Prisons that can not facilitate maximum security do not currently receive prisoners direct from the community, court or Police.

Within five working days from receipt at a prison, all prisoners are to have a Management and Placement — Sentenced (MAP-S) checklist completed to determine their security rating. This checklist contains questions that relate to a number of static and dynamic factors such as age, nature of offending (alleged and historical), length of sentence, behaviour whilst in custody and any history of escapes. Some questions have scoring allocated to the response options, which advise the recommended security rating for the individual concerned.

The MAP-S checklist contains questions relating to the prisoner's medical and psychological health. Assessment staff answer these questions by reviewing the prisoner's medical and "at risk" alerts on TOMS, any related information from available Pre Sentence Reports or Judge's Sentencing Remarks including psychological/psychiatric reports where available, previous assessment documentation relating to other periods of incarceration where applicable, through discussion with the prisoner and where necessary confirmation with medical or psychological staff. Other information that may be utilised during the overall assessment process includes the prisoner's criminal history, information available on TOMS and within the Assessment Case Management system including alerts, "at risk" status (self harm), incident reports, previous program participation and previous stay assessment documentation.

Where a prisoner's minimum period in custody (time to earliest potential date of release either to parole or freedom which ever is first) is six months or less, they will have their security rating and placement determined through the use of a MAP — S checklist. Where a prisoner's minimum period in custody is greater than 6 months they will generally have an Individual Management Plan (IMP) prepared. Supporting documentation to the IMP includes the MAP — S checklist which informs the security rating; treatment assessments (substance use, violence, sex offending and cognitive skills as applicable to their current offences) which determine program participation requirements; an education assessment that advises on the level of education achieved and any courses or vocational training the prisoner is recommended to participate in; and a Case Conference report which details more specific detailed information regarding the prisoner's history, current offending and circumstances.

The IMP is a document that is given to the prisoner and informs their security rating, placement, current behaviour, outstanding court, visit restrictions, special need referrals such as counselling, family/community/social contact issues, program requirements, future IMP review dates and anticipated security ratings at those future reviews. This document is considered to be a dynamic document that should respond to a change of circumstance and as such is reviewed regularly, generally on a six monthly basis unless the prisoner is more than three years from their earliest potential release date (either to parole or freedom) at which time it is reviewed annually.

The approval of a MAP-S checklist, which activates the advised security rating, is delegated to the Superintendent or relevant Assistant Superintendent at the facility. All IMPs are Case Conferenced (considered by at least three Case Conference members), the process for this is defined in ACR 18 and as for the MAP-S checklist the approval of the IMP and therefore the confirmation of the resultant security rating is undertaken by the Superintendent or relevant Assistant Superintendent at the facility. This process is the same for both public and private facilities.

- (6) There is no difference to the assessment process required for prisoners regardless of where they are placed.
- (7) A prisoner's eligibility for work camp placement is assessed using a two-tiered approval process. This commences with the unit manager making a recommendation for work camp placement, with the respective Superintendent or their delegate making the final decision on the prisoner's suitability.

Final approval of work camp placement is based on information provided from a number of staff involved in the management of the prisoner, including unit staff and staff supervising prisoners during their working day.

A range of factors are taken into consideration to ensure that the prisoner's placement at a work camp is low risk. This includes an assessment of the offender's prison based behaviour, work reports, health and medical needs, potential victim issues and program needs consistent with the their Individual Management Plan.

Consideration is also given to the prisoner's prior criminal record, for example, any history of Escape Legal Custody.

IT ALL STARTS AT SCHOOL PROGRAM

6295. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

I refer to the 'It All Starts at School' program and ask:

- (a) what consultation did the Department do prior to putting this program into place;
- (b) how many schools are participating in the program;
- (c) which schools are participating in the program;
- (d) how many students are participating in the program;
- (e) how many students have been rewarded pursuant to this program;
- (f) how many organisations (such as the West Coast Eagles Football Club) have joined the program to provide special incentives to those students rewarded under the program;
- (g) what are the names of the organisations referred to in (f) above;
- (h) what has been the entire amount spent on the program;
- (i) what is the total budget allocation to this program for each of the financial years:
 - (i) 2011–12;
 - (ii) 2012–13; and
 - (iii) 2013–14;
- (j) how many Full Time Equivalents have been allocated to the program?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (a) The 'It All Starts At School' program of rewards and recognition is part of the Better attendance: Brighter futures strategy.

In August 2009, I released a draft of the strategy and invited the public to provide feedback between 21 August and 21 November 2009.

- (b)–(c) Please refer to the Department of Education website for details of the ten schools.

- (d) Approximately 3 000 students.
- (e) In Terms 2 and 3 2011, 78 students have been rewarded with unique experiences where they spent a day behind the scenes at some of Perth's companies and organisations to see what it is like to work there. Another 68 students will be rewarded with these experiences during Term 4, 2011. The ten participating schools have also been provided with vouchers to reward students, including tickets to movie premieres and the Perth Royal Show, discount vouchers for clothing retailers and entertainment outlets, iPods, gift cards for various retailers and sporting merchandise.
- (f) 27 organisations.
- (g) Student Edge, West Coast Eagles Football Club, Hoyts, Nova 93.7, Boost Juice, XciteLogic, Filmbites, West Australian Football League, Perth Heat, AMF Bowling, Scitech, Sony Music Australia, Sumo Salad, Transperth, Adventure World, Transit Clothing, Video Ezy, Jeanswest, Subway, Timezone, Perth Royal Show, Fremantle Football Club, Rockface, Retravision, One for the Road, Smiggle and Kart World
- (h) \$92 506.25 (ex GST) was allocated for the 'It All Starts At School' program in 2010/2011.
- (i) Decisions about funding for future financial years have yet to be determined.
- (j) 0.6 FTE in 2010/2011.

PUBLIC HOUSING — MAINTENANCE PRICING STRUCTURE

6296. Mr P.C. Tinley to the Minister for Housing

I refer to the Department of Housing's new pricing structure for materials for housing maintenance issued on 1 July 2011, and I ask;

- (a) is the Minister aware that the fee paid to a sub-contractor by Transfield for installing four deadlocks is \$5.50 after deduction of costs, while the fee paid to Transfield by the Department of Housing is \$92.85?
- (b) why is Transfield paid thirteen times what a sub-sub contractor is paid; and what is the justification for this;
- (c) is the work being done by Transfield and its sub-contractors or by sub-sub contractors; and
- (d) how is the current practice saving taxpayer money and improving the lives and living standards of trades people and Homeswest tenants?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Housing advises:

- (a) The Department of Housing does not dictate the rate at which the head contractor pays its sub-contractors.
- (b) The Department of Housing pays Transfield according to the Schedule of Rates.
- (c) Transfield employ sub-contractors and these sub-contractors can employ their own sub-contractors.
- (d) The Department anticipates that this Maintenance model will demonstrate better value for money and allow more maintenance for the same expenditure thus benefitting public housing tenants. The Department is unable to provide information on the living standards of tradespeople as it does not conduct surveys on tradespeople.

VEHICLE CRASHES — JOONDALUP DRIVE—SHENTON AVENUE

6297. Mr A.P. O'Gorman to the Minister for Transport

- (1) How many vehicle crashes have been reported at the Joondalup Drive/Shenton Avenue intersection in Joondalup in each month since January 2010?
- (2) When were red light/speed cameras installed at the Joondalup Drive/Shenton Avenue intersection?
- (3) Has the vehicle crash rate decreased since the installation of the red light/speed cameras at the intersection and by how much?
- (4) What was the severity of each vehicle crash in (1)?
- (5) Are any improvements planned for the Joondalup Drive/Shenton Avenue intersection?
- (6) What improvements are planned?
- (7) How much funding has been allocated for improvements at this intersection and when will works commence?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

- (1) 54 crashes reported at the Joondalup Drive/Shenton Avenue intersection from January 2010 to the end of August 2011.
- (2) Red light/speed cameras were installed at the intersection on 13 April 2011.
- (3) There were 38 crashes that occurred from January 2010 and prior to 13 April 2011. There were 16 crashes that occurred after 13 April 2011 to the end of August 2011.
- (4)
 - January 2010 = 0 crash
 - February = 1 crash, 1 property damage only
 - March = 5 crashes, 1 medical crash, 4 property damage only
 - April = 7 crashes, 1 hospital crash, 1 medical crash, 5 property damage only
 - May = 1 crash, 1 property damage only
 - June = 5 crashes, 1 medical crash, 4 property damage only
 - July = 1 crash, 1 medical crash
 - August = 1 crash, 1 property damage only
 - September = 1 crash, 1 hospital crash
 - October = 1 crash, 1 property damage only
 - November = 1 crash, 1 property damage only
 - December = 1 crash, 1 property damage only
 - January 2011 = 3 crashes, 1 hospital crash, 1 medical crash, 1 property damage only
 - February = 4 crashes, 1 hospital crash, 3 property damage only
 - March = 6 crashes, 1 medical crash, 5 property damage only
 - April = 2 crashes, 2 property damage only
 - May = 2 crashes, 1 medical crash, 1 property damage only
 - June = 6 crashes, 2 medical crashes, 4 property damage only
 - July = 5 crashes, 1 hospital crash, 3 medical crashes, 1 property damage only
 - August = 2 crashes, 1 property damage only.
- (5)–(6) The City of Joondalup is considering a proposal by Main Roads to modify the traffic signals to prevent right turn “filter” movements.
- (7) Work will commence post-comment by the City of Joondalup. A minor cost would be involved to reprogram software.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS — POWERS

6299. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Minister for Education

- (1) What powers does an independent public school have that other schools in the Government school system do not have?
- (2) Can an independent public school dismiss or compulsorily transfer a teacher or any other staff member and if so what is the mechanism used to achieve this?
- (3) Can an independent public school deviate in any way from the Enterprise Bargaining Agreements applying to employees of the Education Department?
- (4) Can an independent public school change the numbers or duties of school cleaners or gardeners or decide to contract out these services?
- (5) Can an independent public school opt out of the national curriculum?
- (6) Can an independent public primary school decide not to enrol year seven students?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (1) The flexibilities, authorities and responsibilities of an Independent Public School are outlined in the Prospectus which is available on the Department of Education’s Independent Public Schools website at <http://www.det.wa.edu.au/independentpublicschools>.
- (2)–(3) No.
- (4) Current Government policy stipulates that school cleaning and gardening is undertaken by staff employed directly by the Department of Education. This applies to all public schools irrespective of independent status. Provision exists for schools to engage contractors for cleaning and gardening services where they can demonstrate they have undertaken all reasonable steps to recruit day labour staff but have been unsuccessful. An Independent Public School or cluster of schools may choose to

employ additional cleaning and gardening staff, funded by the school, provided the school complies with the policy on the use of day labour staff.

- (5) No.
 (6) No. Enrolments in all public schools are governed by the Department's Enrolment policy.

SCHOOLS — DEMOUNTABLE CLASSROOMS

6300. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

- (1) How many demountable classrooms were in place in Western Australian public schools in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011?
 (2) What is the total stock of demountable classrooms held by the Department of Education in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011?
 (3) How much was spent on purchasing new demountable classrooms in the financial year 2008–09, 2009–10 and 2010–11?
 (4) How much is expected to be spent on new demountable classrooms in the financial year 2011–12?
 (5) How much was spent on maintenance and refurbishment of demountable classrooms in the financial years 2008–09, 2009–10 and 2010–11?
 (6) How much is expected to be spent on the maintenance and refurbishment of demountable classrooms in the financial year 2011–12?
 (7) How much was spent on relocating demountable classrooms in the financial years 2008–09, 2009–10 and 2010–11?
 (8) How much is expected to be spent on relocating demountable classrooms in the financial year 2011–12?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

I am advised by the Department of Education as follows:

- (1) The number of demountable and transportable buildings that were in place in Western Australian public schools in:
 2008 — 2 791
 2009 — 2 825
 2010 — 2 855
 2011 — 2 880*
 *This figure includes 84 new transportable buildings built as part of the Building the Education Revolution Program (BER). As part of stock revitalisation, 59 demountable buildings were also demolished during this time.
- (2) Please refer to (1) for response.
- (3) The following amounts were spent on purchasing new demountable classrooms:
 2008–09 — \$2.67 million (excludes transportables purchased through the BER program)
 2009–10 — \$2.3 million (excludes transportables purchased through the BER program)
 2010–11 — \$3.0 million (There were no BER transportables purchased in 2010–11).
- (4) \$3 million.
- (5)–(7) Refurbishment is undertaken as part of the relocation of transportable buildings.
 The following figures include maintenance, refurbishment, relocation and commissioning costs:
 2008–09 — \$13 871 306
 2009–10 — \$14 589 175 (includes relocations undertaken as part of BER)
 2010–11 — \$17 985 411 (includes relocations undertaken as part of BER)
- (8) \$9.9 million.

SINGAPORE TRADE OFFICE — STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

6301. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for State Development

In relation to the Department of State Development advertising for a Regional Director for the newly created Singapore Trade Office, I ask:

- (a) when did Western Australia's last Trade Office in Singapore close down;
 (b) what other staffing and accommodation arrangements will be made for the Singapore office;

- (c) what is the status of the Malaysian Trade Office which previously serviced Singapore;
- (d) what other Trade Offices have been closed in Asia, South-east Asia, North Asia and South Asia since the election of the Barnett Government;
- (e) which Trade Office services trade opportunities for
 - (i) Western Australia/Thailand;
 - (ii) Western Australia/Vietnam;
 - (iii) Western Australia/Cambodia;
 - (iv) Western Australia/Laos; and
 - (v) Western Australia/Burma?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

Department of State Development advises:

- (a) In 1994, the Singapore Trade Office was re-located to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where it currently represents Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.
- (b) A Regional Director and up to three locally engaged staff. An office lease is being negotiated for premises in Suntec Tower 4, on Tamesek Boulevard, Singapore.
- (c) Once the Singapore Trade Office is established, the State Government will review the viability of the Malaysia Trade Office.
- (d) None.
- (e) Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Burma are serviced by the Perth based International Trade and Investment Division, Department of State Development.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS — NATIVE PLANT USE

6304. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Minister for Local Government

I refer to new housing developments in Western Australia and I ask:

- (a) does the Government have any policy for new estates to ensure native flora is used for landscaping in new developments;
 - (i) if not why not; and
 - (ii) if yes, will you table a copy of the policy;
- (b) does the Government have any involvement in ensuring developers use native flora;
 - (i) if not why not; and
 - (ii) if yes, please outline;
- (c) has the Government taken any action to ensure native vegetation or waterwise plants are used in public spaces in Ellenbrook?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

- (a)–(c) Response will be forthcoming from the Minister for Planning.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS — NATIVE PLANT USE

6305. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Minister for Planning

I refer to new housing developments in Western Australia and I ask:

- (a) does the Government have any policy for new estates to ensure native flora is used for landscaping in new developments;
 - (i) if not why not; and
 - (ii) if yes, will you table a copy of the policy;
- (b) does the Government have any involvement in ensuring developers use native flora;
 - (i) if not why not; and
 - (ii) if yes, please outline;
- (c) has the Government taken any action to ensure native vegetation or waterwise plants are used in public spaces in Ellenbrook?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a) The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) does not have a specific State Planning Policy on the use of native vegetation in landscapes for new estates. Local Governments may have policies or guidelines supporting the use of native flora in new developments; the choice of species used in landscaping in such developments is generally made at a local planning level by the local government as the relevant planning authority.

However, the WAPC generally advocates use of local native species as outlined in guidance document *Visual Landscape Planning in Western Australia: a manual for evaluation, siting and design* (Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) 2007) pg 93:

- *“Use of local species in open space, especially where they already exist, will provide visual links with the original landscape character.*
- *The use of suitable local native trees and shrubs in public spaces including parks, and rail and reserves, may help to emphasise a landscape’s individual character. Consideration should be given to a variety of local plants.*
- *Visually complementary plant species should be used in median strips and verge planting, rather than species that contrast in form and colour (eg pines, roses, palms) unless these are valued for heritage or cultural reasons.”*

The WAPC and the Department of Planning support the incorporation of better urban water management and water sensitive urban design into landscaping. State Planning Policy 2.9: Water resources (WAPC 2006) promotes the retention and use of local native vegetation in developments to minimise water use and maximise filtration, particularly where landscaping is proposed. This is also supported by the *Liveable Neighbourhoods* operational policy (WAPC 2007) and the *Better Urban Water Management* document (WAPC 2008).

There may be specific instances where the State may wish to prescribe the use of local native plants. This would generally be the case where the surrounding landscape is of natural conservation value and protection of biodiversity values is a high priority, for example locations adjoining a national park, nature reserve or a Bush Forever area, often as a condition of subdivision where appropriate. *State Planning Policy 2.8: Bushland policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region* (WAPC 2010), advocates the protection, enhancement and creation of ecological linkages between areas of regional and local biodiversity.

Visual Landscape Planning in Western Australia: a manual for evaluation, siting and design (WAPC 2007) is a publicly available document and can be viewed at <http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/publications/1205.asp>.

- (b) (i)–(ii) The relevant planning authority is responsible for the clearing of any conditions placed on a planning approval for which it has requested. For example, if the local government were to place a native species landscape condition on a planning approval, the respective local government would be responsible for clearing the condition once the proponent had adequately demonstrated that the condition had been met.
- (c) No. The WAPC has not put specific native vegetation landscape conditions on the subdivision applications approved in regard to Ellenbrook as this is considered a predominantly local government matter. The City of Swan (the City) has landscape guidelines for developers which promote the use of water wise and native vegetation within landscaped areas. However, a significant number of planning approvals for Ellenbrook were approved prior to the City’s adoption of these landscape guidelines. For any new development in the Ellenbrook area, the City recommends these landscape guidelines be used by developers.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS — NATIVE PLANT USE

6306. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Minister for Planning

Minister, I refer to new housing developments in Western Australia and I ask:

- (a) does the Government have any policy for new estates to ensure native flora is used in new developments;
- (b) does the Government have any involvement in ensuring that developers use native flora;
- (i) if not why not; and
- (ii) if yes, please outline;
- (c) has the Government taken any action to ensure native vegetation is used in public spaces in Ellenbrook?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

Please refer to Legislative Assembly Question on Notice 6305.

AFRICAN YOUTH IN JUSTICE SYSTEM — DIVERSIONARY PROGRAMS

6307. Ms J.M. Freeman to the Minister for Corrective Services

On Thursday 29 September the Minister discussed a partnership between the Department of Corrective Services and the African community aimed at diverting young African immigrants away from the justice system, and I ask:

- (a) has the department allocated any funds to mentor immigrants who find themselves in trouble with the law; and
- (b) if no, are there any plans to provide funding to a migrant resources centre like the Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre in Mirrabooka to provide mentoring programs?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) The Department of Corrective Services (the Department) does not provide any funding for non government agencies who provide mentoring services to young African immigrants. The Department works in collaboration with Assisting Torture and Trauma Survivors (ASeTTS) to provide services to young African immigrants who have come into contact with the formal justice system.

The Department endeavours to recruit staff from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) backgrounds including staff from African backgrounds. Youth Support Officers work with young people from various backgrounds, including CaLD, and are specifically employed to provide mentoring to young people and their families in the community. People from CaLD backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply for these positions.

- (b) Currently there are no plans to provide funding to migrant resource centres however this will be reviewed if a gap in services is highlighted.

FOREST PRODUCTS COMMISSION — STAFFING LEVELS

6308. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Forestry

In relation to staffing levels in the Forest Products Commission (FPC), I ask:

- (a) how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff was there employed at the FPC when the Liberal–National Government came into office in September 2008;
- (b) how many FTE staff are there currently employed at the FPC;
- (c) in what areas within the organisation are the current employees placed;
- (d) if there are fewer employees currently working for the FPC than stated in answer a), what areas within the organisation did the reduction come from; and
- (e) within the abovementioned timeframe of September 2008 to present day, how many FTE positions have;
 - (i) been made redundant;
 - (ii) not been advertised and filled after a substantive position holder has tendered a resignation; and
 - (iii) been newly created?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) 244.20 FTE staff were employed at the FPC when the Liberal–National Government came into office in September 2008.
- (b) 153.20 FTE staff currently employed at the FPC.
- (c) Current employees placed in Executive, Support Services, Science and Technical Services and Forest Operations.
- (d) Reduction came from Sharefarms, Support Services, Forest Operations and Science and Technical Services.
- (e)
 - (i) 74 FTE positions have been made redundant.
 - (ii) Three positions currently not been advertised and filled after a substantive position holder has tendered a resignation.
 - (iii) Eight positions have been newly created.

TIMBER MILLS — SOUTH WEST

6310. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Forestry

In relation to timber mills in the South–West of the State, I ask,

- (a) what subsidy or royalty relief has, or will the Government offer to any incoming buyer of the closed Deanmill facility in Manjimup if it is sold;
- (b) what will be the breakdown of timber quality and quantity made available to the purchasers of 1st grade, 2nd grade and 3rd grade Jarrah and Karri;
- (c) where will the timber come from;
- (d) what practices are in place – or will be implemented — to ensure timber quality and quantity will be kept up to ensure the industry’s long-term future;
- (e) if a variation in timber quality and quantity is given to Deanmill will other mills be offered the same variation; and
- (f) if assistance in terms of subsidy or royalty relief is made available to Deanmill will existing mills be offered the same terms and conditions if they differ from current industry arrangements?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) The Government has not made any general offer of a subsidy or royalty relief for any prospective buyers of the Gunns’ jarrah sawmilling and processing business. Independent of the sale of the Deanmill Facility, the Forest Products Commission (FPC) has reviewed its jarrah sawlog pricing arrangements to take account of the currently available log resource and market conditions. These arrangements — which include some price reductions — are already in place for several mills and have been offered to one prospective buyer of Gunns’ Log Contract. These pricing revisions also require agreement to other commercial terms.
- (b) The current quantity of logs (70,000 m³ of jarrah first and second grade sawlogs, 30,000 m³ of jarrah third grade sawlogs and 4,000 m³ of marri sawlogs) remain attached to the Gunns’ contract.
- (c) The Gunns’ contract specifies the logs are to be sourced from the Northern, Mornington, Greenbushes, Sunklands, Nannup and Southern supply areas.
- (d) Under the current Forest Management Plan (FMP), which expires on 31 December 2013, log quantities have been calculated to be sustainable. During the current FMP average size of logs has reduced as a higher proportion of smaller, younger regrowth logs making up the supply. No reliable assessment can be made about quality and quantity of timber that might be harvested during the next and subsequent FMPs that are yet to exist.
- (e) The FPC seeks to be even handed with all of its customers; in the case of jarrah sawlog supply, the average delivery cost and the average size and quality of sawlogs varies for customers in different locations.
- (f) Please refer to part (a).

KUNUNURRA — LAND PRICE DISCREPANCIES

6311. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Lands

Regarding the price of land offered for sale by the Department of Regional Development and Lands along Jabiru and Packsaddle Roads in Kununurra, I ask:

- (a) why is there such a major discrepancy in price per hectare for adjoining lots that are similar in size ie Lots 543, 544 & 545 on Packsaddle Road where lot 544 is over \$40,000 more;
- (b) why is there such a major discrepancy in price per hectare for adjoining lots that are smaller in size ie Lots 51, 564 and 478 on Jabiru Road where Lot 564 is almost half the size of the lots either side yet five times the price;
- (c) explanations offered to potential buyers include that the blocks were increased substantially in size and gave river frontage. Is the Minister aware that all the blocks have river frontage, and if so how does the Minister explain the apparent incorrect explanation;
- (d) why is there such a major discrepancy in price per hectare for adjoining lots that were increased by a similar amount and have similar river frontage, ie Lots 543 and 544 for which there is a \$44,000 difference; and
- (e) can the minister explain what methodology is used in pricing the blocks?

Mr B.J. GRYLLS replied:

(a),(b),(d),(e)

The sale of Crown land adjoining lots on Jabiru and Packsaddle Roads is being undertaken in accordance with the 2003 Packsaddle and Riverfarm Road Lot Payment Deed.

The deed outlines that the valuation of Crown lands to be sold is to be carried out according to a methodology commonly known as a 'before and after' valuation. This process involves determining present market values for the lots before and after amalgamation of the Crown land. The difference between the two values is the 'added value' the landowner would likely realise following the amalgamation of the additional land into his holding.

Advice from the Valuer General's Office indicates that latest sales evidence highlights the importance of the residential use component within these lots. Although zoned Rural Agriculture 2, the majority of the value of these lots is in the first 1 to 4 hectares which are used for house, garage, sheds, etc. Therefore with larger lot sizes the 'added value' may have minimal impact on the ultimate value.

(c) Prior to the amalgamation offer, existing lots had river frontage by virtue of the Crown land between these lots and the river. This under-utilised Crown land could have been configured for sale in lots that if sold to new buyers would result in the loss of river frontage to existing lot holders. Instead the land was offered to existing lot holders via an amalgamation process that would preserve their river frontage subject to a 30 metre wide foreshore.

WHALE SHARK INTERACTION TOURS

6312. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Minister for Environment

I refer to tourism operators licences for whale shark interaction tours and I ask:

- (a) when were licences for tourism operators of this kind first introduced;
- (b) have any reviews of these licences been undertaken and if yes, when;
- (c) is the Department of Environment planning to conduct a review into the licence conditions of whale shark interaction tours in the future; and
 - (i) if not, why not; and
 - (ii) if yes, when;
- (d) what is the maximum amount of passengers a vessel is allowed to carry on whale shark interaction tours;
- (e) has the Department of Environment had any consultation with operators to review passenger number caps on vessels; and
- (f) will the Minister table a standard copy of tourism operator whale shark interactive tour licenses and if not, why not?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) 1993
- (b) Yes, via adoption of Wildlife Management Program No. 27 Whale Shark Interaction Management with particular reference to Ningaloo Marine Park (1997).
- (c) Yes. The licence conditions are reviewed in consultation with the licence holders when the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) meets with licence holders twice per year. This consultation occurs prior to, and just after, each whale shark tourism season.
- (d) Twenty passengers subject to vessel survey requirements.
- (e) Yes
- (f) [See paper 4221.]

WATER ACCOUNTS — CUSTOMER PAYMENT DIFFICULTIES

6313. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Water

My question is in relation to the utility account holders of WaterCorp and I ask,

- (a) how many Water Corporation customers are currently in default of payments on their water usage accounts;
- (b) since the Liberal-National Government gained office has there been an increase from historical numbers when compared to the three years prior to forming government of customers defaulting on these accounts; and

- (i) if yes to (b) what is the number of increases; and
- (ii) what does the increase equate to in dollar terms;
- (c) how many customers have accessed the Hardship Utility Grants Scheme (HUGS) to pay their water usage accounts; and
- (d) apart from the HUGS program, does the Government have any other strategic plans to assist people that continue to struggle to meet their utility payments?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) As at 30 September 2011, 80 871 overdue accounts.
- (b) The average number of properties in default has increased from 6.2% to 6.9% of properties serviced. The average default amount per property serviced has increased by approximately \$6.
- (c) From April 2009 to 30 September 2011, 539 customers received a Hardship Utility Grants Scheme (HUGS) grant for their water accounts.
- (d) The Water Corporation offers flexible reduced interest and interest exempt payment arrangements that reflect the customer's personal circumstances and ability to pay. In addition, the Corporation also offers its Water Assist Scheme for customers in extreme long-term financial hardship whereby the Corporation will match a customer's payments dollar for dollar.

DIVERSE WA — CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING

6314. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests

In relation to the recently announced Diverse WA Cultural Competency online cultural training package for public sector employees, I ask:

- (a) does the package include training for assisting with Australian Aboriginals and if not why not;
- (b) is the Minister aware that there are many different Aboriginal languages and cultures that public sector employees also should be aware of;
- (c) what plans does the Minister have for cultural competency training for assisting Indigenous West Australians; and
- (d) what consultation was undertaken to develop the training package and was the peak advocacy body, the Ethnic Communities Council of WA involved?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

- (a) Not specifically, although some of the content may be helpful when working with Australian Aboriginals.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) This question is a matter for the Indigenous Affairs portfolio.
- (d) The package is based on extensive research, utilises some aspects of a package developed by Centrelink and its development was overseen by a reference group which included representatives from the Public Sector Commission, the Mental Health Commission and the Office of Multicultural Interests. The Ethnic Community Council of WA was not involved.

WESTERN TRADE COAST INDUSTRIES COMMITTEE

6316. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Lands

I refer to the Western Trade Coast Industries Committee and ask:

- (a) when was the committee formed;
- (b) who are the members of the committee;
- (c) how many times has the committee met since its inception;
- (d) on what dates were meetings held;
- (e) which committees did this particular committee replace;
- (f) how will the creation of the committee produce an estimated additional \$2billion per annum as outlined in the LandCorp Annual Report;
- (g) as at 17 October 2011, what additional amount has been produced through the creation of this committee;

- (h) how will the creation of the committee produce an additional 1,600 jobs as outlined in the LandCorp annual report; and
- (i) as at 17 October 2011, what is the amount of additional jobs that have been produced through the creation of this committee?

Mr B.J. GRYLLES replied:

- (a) 9 May 2011.
- (b) The Western Trade Coast Industries Committee (WTC IC) comprises of the Chair, Deputy Chair, 11 organisations and two industry representatives:
- WTC IC Chair — Hon Phil Edman MLC
 - WTC IC Deputy Chair — Chris Oughton (Kwinana Industries Council)
 - Local Government Authorities — City of Cockburn, Town of Kwinana and the City of Rockingham
 - LandCorp
 - Fremantle Ports
 - Departments of Planning, State Development, Commerce, Environment and Conservation, Transport, and Water.
 - Two industry representatives — Jim Fitzgerald and Les Vogiatzakis
- (c) Four.
- (d) 3 June 2011, 8 August 2011, 6 September 2011 and 25 October 2011.
- (e) Five committees:
- i. Kwinana Buffer Review Committee;
 - ii. Latitude 32 Community Reference Group;
 - iii. East Rockingham Industrial Park Community Advisory Committee;
 - iv. Kwinana Industries Coordinating Committee; and
 - v. Kwinana Quay Steering Committee.
- (f) The increased economic output and additional job creation figures are based on an economic model taking into account industrial cluster development providing increased productivity and efficiency. This is facilitated through a coordinated infrastructure planning and development approach from Government and Industry through the WTC IC.
- (g) This has not been measured yet. The increased economic output and additional job creation are long term goals and the Committee was only established in May 2011.
- (h) Refer (f) above.
- (i) Refer (g) above.

REID HIGHWAY — DUPLICATION COST

6317. Ms R. Saffioti to the Minister for Transport

- (1) What is the current cost estimate for the duplication of Reid Highway, between Beechboro Road and West Swan Road?
- (2) Has the pre-construction planning and design works for this project been completed by Main Roads?
- (3) If so, will the project include two pedestrian underpasses/overpasses at Lord Street and one near the Bennett Springs estate?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

It is pleasing that the Member is recognising the significant work being undertaken by the Liberal–National Government on roads in the Eastern Corridor which were neglected for almost a decade under the previous failed Labor Government.

- (1) \$75m
- (2) Partially.
- (3) No.

PERTH–DARWIN HIGHWAY — BUSINESS PLAN

6318. Ms R. Saffioti to the Minister for Transport

- (1) Has the Government completed a detailed business plan for the Perth Darwin Highway?
- (2) If so, will the Minister table this document?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

- (1)–(2) Please refer to Question on Notice 4503. It should also be noted that planning money for the detailed design to enable work to begin on this major project will be made available once the Federal Government approves funding. Unfortunately, earlier this year the Federal Government refused to fund this project after lobbying from the Liberal–National State Government. It is noted that, unfortunately, no significant detailed planning work was undertaken by the previous failed Labor State Government.

SWAN URBAN GROWTH CORRIDOR

6319. Ms R. Saffioti to the Minister for Planning

I refer to the Swan Urban Growth Corridor Sub-Regional Structure Plan and specifically the “West Swan West” cell of this plan and ask,

- (1) As at October 2010 an application to amend the MRS to “urban” was being assessed by the Department of Planning, is there an outcome to this application;
 - (a) if not, why not; and
 - (b) if yes, what is the outcome?
- (2) Has the WAPC received any subdivision applications for within this cell;
 - (a) if so, what decision/s has been made by the WAPC in respect any applications?
- (3) Does the Department anticipate that urban subdivision within this cell will commence in the near future?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (1) No.
 - (a) A substantial constraint affecting the transfer of the land to the ‘Urban’ zone is an existing poultry farm (and associated buffer) located in the northern portion of the cell. The proponent has requested that the Department of Planning hold the application in abeyance pending confirmation from the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) on whether the generic buffer could be reduced to maximise the ‘Urban’ area. Amending the zoning of the land in the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) is, therefore, dependent on resolution of this matter and the associated structure planning impacts.
 - (b) Not applicable
- (2) The Western Australian Planning Commission has not received any subdivision applications within this cell since the application to amend the zoning in the MRS to ‘Urban’ was received. There are subdivision applications in the cell that were determined prior to the application to amend the zoning in the MRS to ‘Urban’.
 - (a) Not applicable
- (3) Until the issues mentioned in answer (1a) are resolved, it is unclear at this stage as to when urban subdivision is likely to commence within the cell.

The matters outlined in answer (1a) need to be resolved prior to any amendments taking place.

PUBLIC HOUSING — NUMBER VACANT

6322. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Housing

As at 30 September 2011, could the Minister advise;

- (a) the total number of vacant Department of Housing dwellings across Western Australia and the reasons for their vacancy; and
- (b) the total number of vacant dwellings per Department of Housing district?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Housing advises:

- (a)–(b) Metro North

Available for Allocation 27
 Available for Community Housing 19
 Requiring Maintenance 119

Metro South 21, 0, 28

Metro South East 35, 0, 36

Great Southern 3, 0, 5

South West 4, 0, 19

Goldfields 7, 0, 19

Mid West 1, 0, 11

Pilbara 8, 0, 42

Kimberley 4, 6, 22

Wheatbelt 2,0,10.

PUBLIC HOUSING — WAITLIST

6323. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Housing

With reference to the wait-list for Department of Housing accommodation as at 30 September 2011, could the Minister advise the number of:

- (a) applicants on the wait-list for Department of Housing accommodation;
- (b) children and dependants associated with applicants on the wait-list for Department of Housing accommodation;
- (c) children and dependants associated with applicants on the wait-list for Department of Housing accommodation per district;
- (d) applicants on the priority housing wait-list;
- (e) applicants on the priority housing wait-list per district;
- (f) children and dependants associated with applicants on the priority housing wait-list; and
- (g) children and dependants associated with applicants on the priority housing wait-list per district?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Housing advises:

- (a) 22 976 (a reduction from the previous month).
- (b) 23 002 children and dependants.
- (c) Children and dependants on waitlist per district (as at 30 September 2011):
 - Metro North 9 581
 - Metro Fremantle 2 751
 - Metro South East 5 324
 - Southern 518
 - South West 1 113
 - Goldfields 446
 - Mid West/Gascoyne 1 056
 - Pilbara 723
 - Kimberley 1 263
 - Wheatbelt 227
- (d) 3 117
- (e) Priority Wait list by application per district (as at 30 September 2011):
 - Metro North 1 311
 - Metro Fremantle 598
 - Metro South East 490
 - Southern 108
 - South West 39
 - Goldfields 38
 - Mid West/Gascoyne 104
 - Pilbara 139

- Kimberley 248
Wheatbelt 42
- (f) 3 447
- (g) Children and dependants on priority waitlist per district (as at 30 September 2011):
Metro North 1 433
Metro Fremantle 530
Metro South East 584
Southern 92
South West 46
Goldfields 29
Mid West/Gascoyne 168
Pilbara 215
Kimberley 306
Wheatbelt 44

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6326. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Fisheries; Electoral Affairs

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period 1 July 2011 – 14 October 2011:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6327. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Regional Development; Lands; Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr B.J. GRYLLES replied:

- (a) Three.
- (b) CinefestOz Movie Premiere Ticket and Gala Party, Geographe French Australian Festival Inc.; and tickets to Jandamarra at Windjana Gorge, Bunuba Films Inc.
- (c) \$128 each and \$70 each.
- (d) The Geographe French Australian Festival Inc has a sponsorship agreement with EventsCorp and a Financial Assistance Agreement with the South West Development Commission. Bunuba Films Inc. has a Financial Assistance Agreement with the Kimberley Development Commission.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6328. Mr M. McGowan to the Treasurer; Attorney General

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period 1 July 2011 – 14 October 2011:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6329. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Education

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

For the period 1 July 2011 to 14 October 2011, Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6330. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance; Commerce; Small Business

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period 1 July 2011 – 14 October 2011:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6333. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts; Science and Innovation

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a) One.
- (b) Perth Fashion Festival Show, Professional Public Relations.
- (c) \$50 / \$70
- (d) The staffer attended the event with their partner, who was the principal recipient of the invitation. The staff member declared the event.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6334. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister representing the Minister for Energy; Training and Workforce Development; Indigenous Affairs

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6335. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Transport; Housing

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period 1 July 2011 – 14 October 2011:

- (a) One
- (b) AFL Football Ticket, Synergy
- (c) \$60
- (d) Government trading entity.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6337. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

Ministerial Office

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period from 1 July 2011 to 14 October 2011:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6338. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; Corrective Services

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period 1 July 2011 – 14 October 2011:

- (a) One
- (b) AFL Football Ticket, Synergy.
- (c) \$60
- (d) Synergy is a government trading enterprise.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6339. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Environment; Water

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period 1 July 2011 – 14 October 2011:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY STAFF

6340. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister representing the Minister for Mental Health; Disability Services

Could the Minister please advise in relation to staff within the Minister's office, has any officer, since 1 July 2011, accepted any gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and

- (a) if so, how many ministerial officers have accepted a gift, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) if so, what was the nature of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered the gift;
- (c) if so, what is the estimated individual value of the gift(s), free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) if so, does the State Government have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and, if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's records show for the period 1 July 2011 — 14 October 2011:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY SENIOR STAFF

6341. Mr M. McGowan to the Premier; Minister for State Development

For each agency within the Premier's portfolio of responsibilities, has any officer above level 3.1 within those agencies, since 1 July 2011, accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and if so

- (a) how many officers have accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) what was the nature of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered them;
- (c) what is the estimated individual value of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) does the agency have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

Date range: 1 July 2011 — 1 November 2011

Government agencies in the Premier's portfolio advise:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet's record show:

- (a) Nine
- (b)–(d) 2011 Leadership Dialogue Gala Dinner, Australian American Education Leadership Foundation, \$300, No.
Breakfast Seminar (two staff), Google Australia and Digital Niche, \$80, No.
AFL Football Match, Synergy, \$60, No.
GMH new vehicle launch, GMH, \$18, No.
Ford test drive day, Ford Fleet, Unknown, No.
AFL Football Match, Stantons International, \$120, Stantons International are the Department's contracted internal auditors.
Philharmonic Concert, AEG Ogden — Perth, 160, No.
Sundowner for WA Fishing Industry Awards, WA Fishing Industry Council, 30, No.

Public Sector Commissioner:

- (a) One officer.
- (b) An invitation to a free seminar, including breakfast, offered by Precedent Communications Australia Pty.
- (c) Value is estimated at less than \$30.
- (d) No.

Department of State Development:

- (a) Ten.
- (b)–(d) [See paper 4222.]

Lotterywest:

- (a) 11

- (b)–(d) Corporate hospitality — Fremantle, Mitchell & Partners \$100 (Supplier contract)
 Perth Global Illumination Breakfast, Meerkats \$50 (Supplier contract)
 Corporate hospitality — Melbourne Cup, Sunday Times \$150 (Media booked via Mitchell and Partners)
 Farewell luncheon for Consultant, Deloitte \$45 (Supplier contract for Business Enhancement Program)
 Luncheon, KPMG \$40 (Consultant employed by KPMG)

Salaries and Allowances Tribunal; Gold Corporation:

- (a) None
 (b)–(d) Not applicable

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY SENIOR STAFF

6345. Mr M. McGowan to the Treasurer; Attorney General

For each agency within the Treasurer's portfolio of responsibilities, has any officer above level 3.1 within those agencies, since 1 July 2011, accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and if so

- (a) how many officers have accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
 (b) what was the nature of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered them;
 (c) what is the estimated individual value of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel; and
 (d) does the agency have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

Department of Treasury

- (a) Five
 (b)–(d) [See paper 4223.]

Economic Regulation Authority

- (a) Nil
 (b)–(d) Not applicable.

Government Employees Superannuation Board

- (a) 42
 (b)–(d) [See paper 4223.]

Insurance Commission of Western Australia

- (a) 85
 (b)–(d) [See paper 4223.]

Western Australian Treasury Corporation

- (a) Nil
 (b)–(d) Not applicable.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY SENIOR STAFF

6350. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts; Science and Innovation

For each agency within the Minister's portfolio of responsibilities, has any officer above level 3.1 within those agencies, since 1 July 2011, accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and if so

- (a) how many officers have accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
 (b) what was the nature of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered them;
 (c) what is the estimated individual value of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel; and
 (d) does the agency have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

Department of Planning

- (a) Four
- (b) Six meals:
 - Nigel Satterley
 - Development Planning Strategies — Frank Arangio
 - Shell
 - Gin Wah Ang
 - Ron Tondut
 - Brian Haratsis

Four Corporate Box football match tickets:

- Nigel Satterley

Two football match tickets & meal:

- John Langoulant

One meal and golf:

- Woods Bagot

- (c) Six meals:
 - Nigel Satterley — \$150.00
 - Development Planning Strategies — Frank Arangio — \$90.00
 - Shell — \$100.00
 - Gin Wah Ang — \$100.00
 - Ron Tondut — \$100.00
 - Brian Haratsis — \$100.00

Four Corporate Box football match tickets:

- Nigel Satterley — \$300.00

Two football match tickets & meal:

- John Langoulant — \$100.00

One meal and golf:

- Woods Bagot — \$80.00

- (d) No.

Department for Culture and the Arts

- (a) Nil received from a private company or individual.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

ScreenWest

- (a) Nil received from a private company or individual.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

Perth Theatre Trust

- (a) Nil received from a private company or individual.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

State Library of Western Australia

- (a) Nil received from a private company or individual.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

Western Australian Museum

- (a) Nil received from a private company or individual.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

State Records Office

- (a) Nil received from a private company or individual.

(b)–(d) Not applicable.

Art Gallery of Western Australia

- (a) One.
- (b) (1) Tickets for WA Ballet fundraising event from Major Holdings.
(2) Complimentary ticket to Awards Dinner from Australia Business Arts Foundation.
- (c) (1) \$200
(2) \$150
- (d) Nil.

Armadale Redevelopment Authority

- (a) Five (5)
- (b)–(c) Stockland — UDIA luncheon — 2 staff at \$100 each
Taylor Burrell Barnett — breakfast — 1 staff @ \$80
Urbis — Urbis Client function — 1 staff @ \$50
Jones Lang LaSalle — Boardroom lunch — 1 staff @ \$50
Development Planning Strategies (DPS) — cocktail function — 1 staff @ \$50
TPG — sundowner — 1 staff @ \$50
- (d) Stockland — yes, stakeholder
Taylor Burrell Barnett — yes, consultant
Urbis — yes, consultant
Jones Lang LaSalle — yes, consultant
DPS — yes, consultant
TPG — yes, consultant

East Perth Redevelopment Authority/Subiaco Redevelopment Authority

- (a) Seven have accepted hospitality and/or invitations to events from a private company.
- (b)–(d) [See paper 4224.]

Midland Redevelopment Authority

- (a) Nil for the Midland Redevelopment Authority.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

LandCorp

- (a)–(d) Not applicable — LandCorp to provide a response to this question to the Minister for Regional Development; Lands as the Minister for which LandCorp reports to on these matters.

Department of Commerce — Science and Innovation Division

- (a) Seven (7) officers have accepted hospitality. No free travel or accommodation has been accepted.
- (b) The description of the hospitality and donors are listed below:
 - (1) A seminar and luncheon with speaker Dr. Shai Vyakarnam (providing ideas for supporting the innovation community in Western Australia) from Curtin University;
 - (2) Great Southern Great Science Conference dinner, Albany from Professor Peter Davies, University of Western Australia;
 - (3) Lunch and a ticket to the Dockers versus Carlton match on 13 August 2011 from Oakajee Port and Rail;
 - (4) Working lunch from McCusker Alzheimer's Research Foundation.
- (c) (1) \$88 per person;
(2) \$50;
(3) \$120; and
(4) \$87.
- (d) The McCusker Foundation is the recipient of a State Government research grant of \$2.2 million on terms of a Financial Assistance Agreement prepared in 2010.

ChemCentre

(a)–(d) Nil

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY SENIOR STAFF

6354. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests

For each agency within the Minister's portfolio of responsibilities, has any officer above level 3.1 within those agencies, since 1 July 2011, accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and if so

- (a) how many officers have accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) what was the nature of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered them;
- (c) what is the estimated individual value of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) does the agency have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

The following answers refer to the time period 1 July 2011 to 1 November 2011.

Heritage Council of Western Australia and National Trust of Australia (Western Australia)

No

(a)–(d) Not applicable

Department of Local Government including the Office of Multicultural Interests

Yes

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1	The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia Business Breakfast presented by demographer, Bernard Salt. Attended as a guest of KPMG.	\$95.00	Yes — contract awarded through the tender process.

Metropolitan Cemeteries Board

Yes

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1	Update on Stock Market Value Briefing — canapés and drinks — Macquarie.	\$30.00	Yes, Financial Advisors to the Board.
1	Value of Internal Audit Industry presentation — lunch — PriceWaterhouseCoopers.	\$50.00	Yes, Internal Auditors for the Board.
2	Fine Food, Fine Wine, Fine Company Promotion — drinks and canapés — RSM Bird Cameron.	\$60.00	No.
2	Outlook for the Australian Economy — Breakfast Briefing — National Bank.	\$60.00	Yes, Provider of Corporate Credit Card
1	Dell Product update presentation — Lunch briefing — Dell Computing.	\$50.00	Yes, CUA Provider of some computer equipment.
1	HP Products update presentation — Sandwich briefing — HP & Denver Technology.	\$20.00	Yes, CUA Provider of some computer equipment
1	ACCA Conference — Dinner meeting — Austeng.	\$80.00	Yes, maintain the Board's cremators.
1	ACCA Conference — Dinner meeting — Arrow Bronze.	\$80.00	Yes, suppliers of Board's Memorials.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY SENIOR STAFF

6355. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; Corrective Services

For each agency within the Minister's portfolio of responsibilities, has any officer above level 3.1 within those agencies, since 1 July 2011, accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and if so

- (a) how many officers have accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) what was the nature of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered them;
- (c) what is the estimated individual value of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) does the agency have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

Agriculture and Food

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

Forestry

- (a) One
- (b) The accommodation expenses were a result of an invitation to present as key note speaker at conference for International Forestry and Environment Symposium convened by University of Sri Jawardeneapura.
- (c) Approximately \$350.
- (d) No.

Corrective Services

- (a) Five officers from the Department of Corrective Services (the Department).
- (b)–(d)
 1. Return flight to a national conference in Melbourne with two nights accommodation offered by the Australian Hepatology Association (AHA) to the Department's Blood Born Virus Coordinator. Estimated value is \$1000.
 2. Return flight and accommodation at the National Symposium in Melbourne and board meeting for AHA offered to the Communicable Disease Coordinator who is a board member of the AHA. Estimated value is \$4000 (Total of two offers).
 3. Meal at Nine Mary's Restaurant. (Estimated value \$50) offered to the Assistant Commissioner Professional Standards by KPMG, who are not in a business relationship with the Department. The offer was made by a former colleague.
 4. Corporate Golf day offered by CSC Australia to the Manager Business Projects. Estimated value is \$100. CSC provides IT services to the Department.
 5. Corporate Golf day offered by CSC Australia to the Director Business Systems. Estimated value is \$100. CSC provides IT services to the Department.

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY SENIOR STAFF

6356. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Environment; Water

For each agency within the Minister's portfolio of responsibilities, has any officer above level 3.1 within those agencies, since 1 July 2011, accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and if so

- (a) how many officers have accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) what was the nature of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered them;
- (c) what is the estimated individual value of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) does the agency have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a)–(d) [See paper 4225.]

MINISTERIAL OFFICES — GIFT ACCEPTANCE BY SENIOR STAFF

6357. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister representing the Minister for Mental Health; Disability Services

For each agency within the Minister's portfolio of responsibilities, has any officer above level 3.1 within those agencies, since 1 July 2011, accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual; and if so

- (a) how many officers have accepted any hospitality, invitation to an event, free accommodation or free travel from a private company or individual;
- (b) what was the nature of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel, and what is the name of the individual or private company that offered them;
- (c) what is the estimated individual value of the hospitality, event, free accommodation or free travel; and
- (d) does the agency have any commercial or financial relationship with the private company or individual, and if so, what is the nature of that commercial or financial relationship?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

Drug and Alcohol Office; Disability Services Commission

- (a) Nil.
- (b) Not Applicable.
- (c) Nil.
- (d) Not Applicable.

Mental Health Commission

- (a) One
- (b) Economy travel and one night accommodation in Canberra to speak at a conference convened by Criterion Conferences Pty Ltd
- (c) \$900
- (d) No

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES — "IN LIEU OF NOTICE" PAYMENTS

6358. Mr M. McGowan to the Premier

Since 15 August 2011 have any 'in lieu of notice' payments been made to an officer by any agencies within the Premier's portfolio of responsibilities, and if yes:

- (a) how many of these payments have been made;
- (b) which agencies made the payments;
- (c) what was the amount of each payment; and
- (d) in which agency or office did the recipient of the payment work?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

Time period 15 August 2011 — Wednesday 19 October 2011

Government agencies in the Premier's portfolio advise:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet advises:

- (a) Four
- (b) Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- (c) Payment 1: \$28,028
Payment 2: \$14,488
Payment 3: \$6,352
Payment 4: \$17,429
- (d) Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Public Sector Commissioner; Gold Corporation; Salaries and Allowances Tribunal:

- (a) Nil
- (b)–(d) Not applicable.

Department of State Development:

- (a) One
- (b) Department of State Development
- (c) \$24,377.40
- (d) Department of State Development, Resources and Industry Development Group

Lotterywest:

- (a) 5 employees accepted voluntary severances and these payments were made as part of that process
- (b) Lotterywest
- (c) Payment 1:\$21,608
Payment 2:\$12,629
Payment 3:\$14,488
Payment 4:\$12,629
Payment 5:\$21,539
- (d) Lotterywest

AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY — PRIVATE PROPERTIES

6359. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Housing

I refer to the affordable housing plan for 500 private landlords to sign up for the leasing of their properties to public housing clients, and ask:

- (a) as at 18 October 2011, how many properties have become available to public housing clients under this new affordable housing plan; and
- (b) in which suburbs are these properties located?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Housing advises:

- (a)–(b) The initial batch of prospective tenants is currently being interviewed and tenants will be in place by the end of this year.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY — TRANSFER TO COMMUNITY SECTOR

6360. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Housing

I refer to the Government plan announced as part of the affordable housing strategy in May to transfer public housing to the community housing providers and ask:

- (a) since May 2011 how many public housing properties have been transferred to community housing providers;
- (b) from September 2008 to May 2011 how many public housing properties have been transferred to the community housing providers;
- (c) in relation to 2, how many of the properties transferred were funded by the Commonwealth; and
- (d) what impediments are there to transferring properties to the community housing sector?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

It is an unfortunate fact that due largely to the previous Labor Government's failure to release land, a massive spike in housing prices occurred in about 2006, thereby making the dream of home ownership more difficult to achieve. The Liberal–National Government is tackling housing affordability head on with a range of strategies including the one outlined by the Member.

- (a) 425 from 1 June 2011 to 9 October 2011.
- (b) 759 from 1 September 2008 to 31 May 2011.
- (c) 1 073
- (d) Property availability, provider capacity and objectives.

PUBLIC EDUCATION ENDOWMENT TRUST — GRANT APPLICATIONS

6361. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

I refer to the Public Education Endowment Trust, and I ask:

- (a) how many applications were received as a result of call for grant submissions in 2011?
- (b) how many of those applications received, were approved;
- (c) for each of the approved applications:
 - (i) what was the project approved;
 - (ii) how much grant funding was approved; and
 - (iii) what is the name of the individual or group who will undertake the approved project; and
 - (d) if the details requested in (c) are still confidential, when will the approved applications be publicly announced?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (a) 19.
- (b),(d) Applications are currently being formally considered by the Trust. Successful applications will be announced in due course.
- (c) Not applicable.

TEACHERS — RESIGNATIONS AND RETIREMENTS

6363. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

- (1) How many teachers resigned or retired from teaching permanently for each of 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and to date 2011, for:
 - (a) Western Australian Government Schools;
 - (b) Western Australian Catholic Schools: and
 - (c) Western Australian Independent Schools?
- (2) If precise numbers are unavailable for (1) (b) and (c), has the Government estimated those numbers and if so what are the estimated numbers in each category?
- (3) For each number provided in each category in (1) and (2), how many are male and how many female?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (1) (a) The number of teachers who resigned or retired from Western Australian Government Schools is as follows:
 - 2006 — 1 263
 - 2007 — 1 556
 - 2008 — 1 412
 - 2009 — 1 010
 - 2010 — 969
 - 2011 to date — 822

Note that the figures shown are for the gross number of instances of resignations and retirements of teachers in the year given. This may include multiple instances of a resignation or retirement for a single employee because each employee may have multiple jobs in a given year.
- (b) The Member may wish to request this information of the Catholic Education Office and Independent Schools.
- (2) The Member may wish to request this information of the Catholic Education Office and Independent Schools.
- (3) Male and female totals for (1)(a) are as follows:

	Male	Female
2006	438	825
2007	492	1 064
2008	445	967
2009	290	720
2010	299	670
2011 to date	277	545

TEACHERS — MALES IN PROFESSION

6367. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

I refer to the Western Australian College of Teaching (WACOT) Annual Report 2010–11, Page 15, and I ask:

- (a) has the Minister investigated ways to attract and retain males into the teaching profession and if not why not;
- (b) if the Minister has undertaken such an investigation, what were the results and what action is or will be taken as a result of those investigations; and
- (c) will the Minister table any documented results of her investigations into this matter and if not why not?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (a) The Department of Education promotes the teaching profession as a career choice for both males and females. The Department is conscious of the importance of attracting and retaining males as teachers and ensures that male teachers are featured in various marketing and promotional campaigns.
- (b)–(c) Not applicable.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF TEACHING — BOARD MEMBER PAYMENTS

6368. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

I refer to the Western Australian College of Teaching (WACOT), and I ask:

- (a) how much does the Chair of the WACOT Board receive in allowances, expenses or other remuneration;
- (b) how much does each of the WACOT Board Members receive in allowances, expenses or other remuneration;
- (c) what is the total amount paid to WACOT Board Members for allowances, expenses or other remuneration;
- (d) what is the salary paid to the WACOT Director and what other entitlements does she receive in this position;
- (e) what is the salary paid to the WACOT Manager Registration and Membership and what other entitlements does he receive in this position;
- (f) what is the salary paid to the WACOT Manager Corporate Services and what other entitlements does he receive in this position;
- (g) what is the salary paid to the WACOT Manager Legal Services and what other entitlements does she receive in this position;
- (h) what is the level, title and job description of each of the positions within WACOT;
 - (i) what is the total amount paid by WACOT to employees in:
 - (ii) salaries; and
 - (iii) other entitlements?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

I am advised by WACOT as follows:

All information is for the 2010–11 financial year.

- (a) \$14 406 being \$13 216 in stipend and \$1 190 in superannuation.
- (b)–(c) Nil.
- (d) \$127 065 salary, \$11 397 superannuation and access to the College car for personal use.
- (e) \$108 125 salary, \$9 214 superannuation and no other entitlements.
- (f) \$108 125 salary, \$9 885 superannuation and no other entitlements.
- (g) \$118 058 salary, \$9 578 superannuation and no other entitlements.
- (h) EX01, Class 1 0.9 FTE Director
Level 8 1 FTE Manager, Corporate Services
Level 8 1 FTE Manager, Registration Services
SC Level 5 1 FTE Manager, Legal Services
Level 6 1 FTE Senior ICT Officer

SC Level 3/4 1.8 FTE Legal Officers
 Level 4 0.9 FTE Executive Officer
 Level 4 1 FTE Senior Finance Officer
 Level 4 1 FTE Paralegal Officer
 Level 4 0.5 FTE Human Resources Consultant
 Level 4 1 FTE ICT Officer
 Level 4 2 FTE Senior Membership Officer
 Level 3 10 FTE Membership Officer
 Level 3 2 FTE Finance Officer
 Level 3 1 FTE Legal Secretary
 Level 2 10 FTE Customer Services Officer
 Level 2 0.6 FTE Human Resources Assistant
 Level 2 1 FTE IT Customer Services Officer
 Level 1 0.56 FTE Assistance Finance Officer

Job Descriptions are in Attachment 1

- (i) (i) total salaries of \$2 714 415; and
- (ii) \$332 316 superannuation.

Attachment 1

Question (h) JDF as at 31 March 2011

EX01 Class 1 Director

Subject to the control of the Western Australian College of Teaching Board, the Director is responsible for, and has all the powers needed to administer, the day-to-day operations of the College. The Director is responsible for implementing or carrying out the functions of the College by: Implementation of the Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004, successfully negotiate policy issues with stakeholders, development, monitoring and implementation of the College's Strategic Plan, raise teacher awareness of the benefits of the registration process for the status of teaching, develop a Professional Learning and Standards Framework, review and refine the registration process, review and revise the Register of Teachers, facilitate the delivery of quality professional development programs, develop policies and processes necessary for the College to carry out its functions and prudently manage the College's financial processes.

Level 8 Manager, Corporate Services

The Manager Corporate Services manages the Corporate Services functions of the College for the teaching profession and provides executive support to the Director and to the Board of Management of the Western Australian College of Teaching, particularly in the area of Finance, Information Technology and Communications systems, Human Resources, and administration as required under the Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004 and other related Acts. The role ensures that corporate services are provided in the most proficient manner, and for the achievement of financial performance objectives, for the development and implementation of information and communication system solutions for the College and a variety of business improvement projects to achieve the mandate of the College on behalf of its members.

Level 8 Manager, Registration Services

The Manager of Registration Services is responsible for membership registration services offered by the College including the maintenance and management of the teacher registration database and management of the membership section staff. This includes the ongoing development, implementation and management of the teacher registration process and the co-ordination of the registration services to members offered by the College.

SC Level 5 Manager, Legal Services

As Legal Officer to the College Board, Committees and Director, the position is responsible for assisting the Director and the Board in reviewing the rules, policies and legal procedures for the College, provision of legal and policy advice and undertaking research as required to fulfil the College's mandated role under the Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004.

Level 6 Senior ICT Officer

The Senior ICT Officer provides Development, Documentation and Desktop Support to College staff. The position involves the continued development and documentation of the College's Membership database and website as well as maintenance of the servers, telephony and network infrastructure. This role involves a thorough knowledge of relational databases and website design. A high level of skill and experience is required regarding networks and telephone systems. The Senior ICT Officer is expected to maintain awareness of, and

remain up-to-date with Web and multimedia technologies, as well as advising and providing information and analysis of current trends and statistics to the College's ICT Committee regarding the ICT infrastructures capacity, with recommendations for improvements.

SCLevel 3/4 Legal Officers

As Legal Officer to the College Board, Committees and Director, the position is responsible for assisting the Manager, Legal Services in reviewing the rules, policies and legal procedures for the College, provision of legal and policy advice and undertaking research as required to fulfil the College's mandated role under the Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004.

Level 4 Executive Officer

As Executive Officer to the Board and a number of Committees, the position is responsible for setting up meetings, establishing meeting procedures, initiating and preparing agendas, providing papers to the members, taking notes at meetings and writing the minutes. The Executive Officer also provides support to College Board and its reporting committees by undertaking research tasks, preparing special reports, coordinating and preparing Ministerial and Board correspondence and undertaking administrative tasks relating to Board business.

Level 4 Senior Finance Officer

This position assists the Manager Corporate Services in the preparation of financial statements, management reports and budgets to comply with statutory and internal requirements. The position also provides support to ensure that current and future financial requirements of the Western Australian College of Teaching are met and the financial systems and records are accurately maintained.

Level 4 Paralegal Officer

The Paralegal position works in Legal Services, the College's in-house legal practice. Legal Services comprises three lawyers and one Legal Secretary. The Paralegal supports the work of the College's lawyers who provide legal and policy advice to the College as required, ensuring compliance with the Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004. The majority of Legal Services' work relates to allegations of unprofessional conduct concerning teachers in Western Australian schools. As Paralegal for the College's lawyers you will undertake Paralegal and Executive Officer duties including meeting preparation, document management and other administrative or paralegal support as directed.

Level 4 Human Resources Consultant

The Human Resources Consultant provides a customer-focused advisory service in relation to human resource policies, procedures, award interpretation, industrial issues and other complex matters. Additionally, the Human Resources Consultant coordinates the College's recruitment processes.

Level 4 ICT Officer

The ICT Officer assists the Senior ICT Officer in the administration, design, development and maintenance of the College's website (including Internet and Intranet). This position assists in the production of interactive CD-ROMs and graphic design. The ICT Officer maintains and develops web and multimedia corporate standards and procedures for the College and will assist in the development and implementation of Web and multimedia strategies. The ICT Officer is expected to maintain awareness of, and remain up to date with web and multimedia technologies, as well as advising and providing information and analysis of current trends and statistics to the organisations regarding web and multimedia technologies, methods and developments. Provides technical and application support to information and communication technology users within the College.

Level 4 Senior Membership Officer

The Senior Membership Officer is part of the registration and membership team and provides executive and clerical support to the registration and membership committee and the secretariat. The Senior Membership Officer is responsible for the management of the daily operations of the registration and membership teams including conducting data integrity reports, data entry of applications, client services, and the processing of applications to the College.

The Senior Membership Officer supervises and coordinates the daily service delivery of the Customer Service and/or Membership teams and associated procedures and processes in order to ensure an efficient and effective service in maintaining the quality of the day-to-day customer service. They also undertake human resource management functions including timesheet approval, leave requirements, recruitment, performance management, training and performance development.

Level 3 Membership Officer

The Membership Officer, as part of a team, undertakes day-to-day administrative, reception, clerical and some secretarial functions of the Western Australian College of Teaching in relation to the processing and assessment

of membership applications. The Membership Officer also handles enquiries and processes related to applications for membership to the College.

Level 3 Finance Officer

The Finance Officer assists in the day-to-day accounting functions of the Western Australian College of Teaching including: the maintenance of debtors and creditors accounts; the production of monthly financial statements; and general reports. The Finance Officer assists with processing of income transactions for the Western Australian College of Teaching. The Finance Officer assists with the preparation of information for the ATO payment and returns for the College Board; pays accounts and secretariat members' salaries.

Level 3 Legal Secretary

The Legal Secretary position works in Legal Services, the College's in-house legal practice. Legal Services comprises three lawyers and one executive officer/paralegal. The Legal Secretary supports the work of the College's lawyers and paralegal who provide legal and policy advice to the College as required, ensuring compliance with the Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004. The majority of Legal Services' work relates to allegations of unprofessional conduct concerning teachers in Western Australian schools. As Legal Secretary for the College's lawyers and paralegal you will undertake secretarial duties and assist in all aspects of the day-to-day administration of Legal Services' files, clerical and reception duties.

Level 2 Customer Services Officer

Customer Service Officers are the initial contact at the College for customers and members and require a courteous, efficient and contemporary customer service demeanour. Working as a team, the College's Customer Service Officers are responsible for the College's call centre and front office reception. Using a range of communication skills and technologies, Customer Service Officers provide a variety of information pertaining to the College's business and complete prompt and accurate data entry.

Level 2 Human Resources Assistant

The Human Resources Assistant provides a customer focused human resources support role to the College consistent with public sector standards, relevant legislation and College policy. The HR Assistant assists with recruitment, selection and appointment processes; provides Induction training; assists with OSH; and maintains organisational data.

Level 2 IT Customer Services Officer

The IT Customer Service Officer provides 1st level IT support to College customers and staff. The IT Customer Service Officer requires a courteous, efficient and contemporary customer service demeanour and works together with the College's Customer Service Officers in the College's call centre and front office reception. Using a range of communication skills and technologies, the IT Customer Service Officer provides a variety of information pertaining to the College's business and completes prompt and accurate data entry.

Level 1 Assistant Finance Officer

Provides support to the Senior Finance Officer in the effective and efficient management of financial and accounting functions of the College.

COUNTRY HIGH SCHOOL HOSTELS — BROOME AND ALBANY

6370. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

I refer to the 2010–11 Annual Report of the WA Country High School Hostels Authority, and I ask:

- (a) for the Broome Hostel joint capital project with Catholic Education referred to on Page 15:
 - (i) what is the total cost of the project;
 - (ii) how much is the State Government contribution;
 - (iii) how much is the Catholic Education contribution;
 - (iv) is there a Commonwealth contribution and if so how much;
 - (v) does Catholic Education make any ongoing contribution towards the recurrent costs of running the hostel and if not why not;
 - (vi) if yes to (v) how much is contributed per annum;
- (b) for the 24 Catholic Education student places at Albany Residential College referred to on Page 1:
 - (i) what was the Catholic Education contribution towards the capital costs associated with securing these places;

- (ii) what is the Catholic Education contribution to the recurrent costs associated with securing these places; and
- (iii) are the Catholic Education students charged the same amount as government school students and if not what is the differential between the two charges?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (a)
 - (i) \$13 million.
 - (ii) \$9.20 million.
 - (iii) \$3.80 million.
 - (iv) No.
 - (v) The boarding fees paid by Catholic school students constitute the Catholic Education Office's contribution towards recurrent costs.
 - (vi) The total amount varies according to the number of Catholic school students enrolled each year.
- (b)
 - (i) \$1.4 million. In addition, the Catholic Education Office is making an annual \$37 700 contribution towards depreciation costs over the next 20 years.
 - (ii) The boarding fees paid by Catholic school students constitute the Catholic Education Office's contribution towards recurrent costs.
 - (iii) Yes.

RURAL AND REMOTE EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL — DISCUSSION PAPERS

6372. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

I refer to the Department of Education Services 2010–11 Annual Report, Page 33, and I ask:

- (a) when did the Minister receive the discussion papers from the Rural and Remote Education Advisory Council referred to in the Annual Report;
- (b) are the discussion papers publicly available and if not why not; and
- (c) if no to (b), will the Minister undertake to table the discussion papers and if not why not?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (a) 18 August 2011.
- (b) No.
- (c) The discussion papers will be available on the RREAC website after discussions have taken place between the Minister for Education and the Chair and Deputy Chair.

SCHOOLS — GRANTS AUDITING PROGRAM

6375. Mr B.S. Wyatt to the Minister for Education

I refer to the 2010–11 Department of Education Services Annual Report, Page 24, and I ask:

- (a) what were the specific shortcomings of the previous financial accountability auditing system that led to the development of the new Grants Auditing Program; and
- (b) what specific additional requirements are now in place to strengthen the financial accountability of non-government schools?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (a) The specific shortcoming of the previous financial accountability auditing system was that it could not verify the accuracy of a school's claims for grants against the student enrolment and attendance records held by the school.
- (b) The specific additional requirements of the Grants Auditing Program are:
 - forensic examination of schools' student enrolment and attendance records to check compliance with the eligibility criteria for per capita grant funding;
 - publication of a Non-Government Schools Funding Order in the Government Gazette;
 - obtaining Funding Agreements with each school;
 - requiring annual Acquittal Statements from each school for funds received;
 - strengthening the "governance" standard in the registration of non-government schools; and
 - undertaking financial viability assessments on high risk schools.

YABBERUP FOREST — HERBICIDE APPLICATION

6378. Ms A.S. Carles to the Minister for Forestry

Regarding the herbicide application to the forest in Yabberup 2009, I ask:

- (a) which herbicides were applied in this area;
- (b) if Roundup was used, what type;
- (c) what was the total quantity of herbicide applied;
- (d) what were the dates of the application;
- (e) are there records kept of amounts and dates used, and if not, why not;
- (f) what surface and groundwater monitoring quality was conducted before and following the application of herbicide;
- (g) what has this monitoring shown;
- (h) what environmental monitoring of the forest ecosystem was conducted before and the application of herbicide;
- (i) what has this monitoring shown;
- (j) have residues of the applied herbicides been detected in any surface and groundwater quality monitoring of the area;
- (k) what were the limits of detection for the sampling regime; and
- (l) will the Minister please table any environmental monitoring results relating to the application of herbicides to the forest in Yabberup in 2009?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) Glyphosate (Roundup) was applied in the area.
- (b) Glyphosate 450 was used. Glyphosate 450 is a water soluble herbicide that is absorbed by plant foliage and green stems. It is translocated within the plant from the point of contact to the root system.
- (c) A solution of 85 per cent chemical and 15 per cent water was applied. Three millilitres of the solution was applied to each notch. The average rate of application was 3 to 4 litres of solution per hectare. However, the intensity of application varies depending on the silvicultural objective.
The total area treated at Yabberup was 1350 hectares. Based on the average rate of application, it is estimated that approximately 4000 litres of chemical was used.
- (d) Chemical applications were undertaken during the 2009 and 2010 calendar years.
- (e) Precise quantities are not available as the operations are undertaken by contractors. Dates when activities were undertaken are available from contractor payments.
- (f) No surface or groundwater monitoring is necessary. The chemical is injected directly into the tree and there is a very low risk of soil or water contamination. Glyphosate 450 becomes inert when it comes in contact with the soil.
- (g) Not applicable.
- (h) Prior to application of the herbicide, a Planning Checklist for Disturbance Activities (DEC 019) is completed. The checklist identifies any environmental values that could be compromised by the operations.
Post application a Jarrah Cull Thinning Assessment Form (FPC112) is completed. This assessment reviews the effectiveness of the operation and the conditions under which the chemical application has been undertaken.
Contractors have a responsibility to report any chemical spills as part of agreed emergency response procedures. No spills were reported on any of the blocks treated and no evidence of spills was found by forest officers supervising the operations.
No post application monitoring of ecosystem is undertaken at the coupe (or patch) level for this particular operation (notching) because of the low risk of any impact. At a wider level, the Forest Check research programme is undertaken by the Department of Environment and Conservation. This programme is used to monitor ecological processes and the impacts of various forest activities.
- (i) Forest Check monitoring has shown that timber harvesting activity and other associated operations have no long term impacts to bio-diversity values.

- (j) Monitoring is not undertaken as the risk of the chemical entering waterways as a result of this procedure is very low. The herbicide has been injected directly into the tree and is then translocated to the root system. The chemical becomes inert once in contact with the soil.
- (k)–(l) Not applicable.

YABBERUP FOREST — HERBICIDE APPLICATION

6379. Ms A.S. Carles to the Minister for Environment

Regarding the herbicide application to Yabberup forest in 2009, I ask:

- (a) why were thousands of mature Marri, Banksia and Blackbutt tree's targeted for poisoning in Yabberup forest in 2009;
- (b) what impact will the loss of so many Marri, Banksia and Blackbutt trees have on habitat and as a food source for several threatened bird and mammal species in the Yabberup forest;
- (c) what impact will the loss of so many Marri tree habitats have on the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo's which rely on this area for nesting;
- (d) what monitoring by Department of Environment and Conservation/Environmental Protection Authority has been conducted in Yabberup forest to evaluate the impacts on the loss of threatened species and their habitat due to the excessive rate of herbicide application; and
- (e) is this type of poisoning of mature trees common, and what other native forests is it carried out in the South West of Western Australia, and if yes, where?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) All harvesting operations and follow-up regeneration and competition control treatments undertaken in Yabberup forest in 2009 were carried out according to the requirements of the Forest Management Plan 2004–2013 (FMP) and associated guidance documents in order to meet silvicultural objectives.
- (b)–(d) A number of strategies help to minimise the impact from timber harvesting on birds and other fauna species including, at the whole of forest level, the conservation reserve system, augmented by informal reserves and fauna habitat zones and at a local or coupe level retaining habitat trees and logs, mid-storey vegetation elements and long-lived species such as grass trees.
- Department of Environment and Conservation officers routinely monitor operations to ensure compliance with the FMP and associated guidance documents. The department's ForestCheck system monitors the impact of harvesting operations on a broad range of forest species. Preliminary results from ForestCheck monitoring show minimal lasting impacts on birds and mammals as a consequence of harvesting activities in jarrah forest.
- (e) Where appropriate, similar silvicultural treatments are applied to State forest following harvesting in accordance with the FMP and associated guidance documents.

YABBERUP FOREST — HERBICIDE APPLICATION

6380. Ms A.S. Carles to the Minister for Environment

Regarding the herbicide application to Yabberup forest in 2009, I ask:

- (a) has the Minister witnessed the inferior coppicing of the herbicide poisoned trees;
- (b) now that the trees have coppiced poorly at their base, does this type of coppicing could pose a fire hazard in the near future, and if not, why not; and
- (c) is herbicide poisoning of mature native trees in Western Australia's climate sensitive South West forests is best practice, sustainable forest management, and if yes, please provide reasons?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) I have not had an opportunity to visit harvesting operations in Yabberup forest.
- (b) The Department of Environment and Conservation has advised that coppicing that has occurred in Yabberup forest is not considered a significant bushfire hazard.
- (c) I refer the Member to my response to question on notice 6379.

YABBERUP FOREST — HERBICIDE APPLICATION

6381. Ms A.S. Carles to the Minister for Water

Regarding the Forest Products Commission herbicide application in a Public Drinking Water Supply Area at Yabberup forest in 2009, I ask:

- (a) did the Forest Products Commission notify the Department of Water that herbicides would be applied in the Yabberup forest, a Public Drinking Water Supply Area, and if not, why not;
- (b) did the Department of Water conduct any pre or post herbicide application monitoring for surface and groundwater impacts, and:
 - (i) if not, why not; and
 - (ii) if yes, will the Minister table the monitoring report and results; and
- (c) does the Department of Water routinely monitor the surface and groundwater for the presence of herbicides in South West forests where herbicides are applied, and if not, why not?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) No. The State forests and timber reserves are managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation.
- (b) No
 - (i) The use of Glyphosate conforms to relevant Department of Health's Public Sector Circular No: 88 Use of Herbicides in Water Catchment Areas.
 - (ii) Not applicable
- (e) No. The State forests and timber reserves are managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

DISABILITY AWARENESS TRAINING — SPEECH IMPAIRMENT

6382. Ms A.S. Carles to the Minister representing the Minister for Disability Services

- (1) What provision for disability awareness training does the Western Australian Government currently provide?
- (2) Does the government provide for disability awareness training specifically in relation to speech impairments?
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the case in Western Australia involving a man who was refused entry to a public bar because of his speech impairment?
- (4) How can the Western Australian Government support citizens with speech impairments who face such discrimination in Western Australia?
- (5) Is disability awareness training for public security workers, including rail transport officers mandatory in Western Australia?
- (6) What funding has been allocated for disability awareness training in Western Australia in the latest state budget?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

1. The Disability Services Commission seeks to raise community awareness about the inclusion of people with disability, however the Commission does not directly provide disability awareness training as government, business and community organisations are themselves responsible for training their staff. This includes any specific disability awareness training that may be deemed appropriate in the pursuit of inclusive customer service and in the context of Outcome 4 of Disability Access and Inclusion Plans that over 230 WA public authorities are required to develop and implement under the Disability Services Act 1993; the WA Equal Opportunity Act 1984; and the national Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

On its website the Commission provides a list of known disability awareness training providers.

2. The Disability Services Commission promotes the needs of all people with disability, rather than one particular group of people with disability. While not directly responsible for providing or funding disability awareness training the Commission has developed the following general resources which can assist organisations in undertaking their own disability awareness training:
 - A 'Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) Training Package' to inform State and Local Government of the access and inclusion planning requirements of the Disability Services Act 1993. Part of this package examines DAIP Outcome 4 that 'people with disabilities receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of a public authority as other people receive from the staff of that public authority'.

- DVDs — ‘You Can Make a Difference to Customer Relations for People with Disability for State and Local Government’ and ‘You Can Make a Difference to Customer Relations for People with Disability for Hospitality, Tourism, Retail and Entertainment Industries’.
 - An ‘Accessible Information Training Package’ outlines how to provide information in a manner that makes it as accessible for as many people as possible. Key elements of customer service covered by this package include disability and appropriate language, communicating with people with disability, communication about people with disability, positive language and disability etiquette.
3. The office of the previous Minister for Disability Services was informed of a complaint involving a man who was refused entry to a licensed premise because staff believed his speech impairment was the result of intoxication.
4. In relation to licensed premises this issue resides with the Racing, Gaming and Liquor portfolio.
- More generally, the WA Equal Opportunity Act 1984 makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person with an impairment. A person who believes they have been discriminated against on the basis of their impairment can lodge a complaint with the WA Equal Opportunity Commission.
- The national Disability Discrimination Act 1992 also makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person on the basis of disability. A person who believes they have been discriminated against on the basis of disability can lodge a complaint with the Australian Human Rights Commission.
- The Disability Services Commission funds a range of advocacy organisations which can assist people with disability, their families and carers raise complaints which can include complaints based on claims of discrimination on the basis of disability.
5. Outcome 4 of Disability Access and Inclusion Plans requires that “people with disabilities receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of a public authority as other people receive from the staff of that public authority.” The provision and timing of any disability awareness training for staff in pursuit of that Outcome is the responsibility of the individual public authority.
6. While the Commission has a budget to support the development and awareness of Disability Access and Inclusion Plans, it does not directly provide disability awareness training as government, business and community organisations are themselves responsible for training their staff.

KARNET PRISON — SEWERAGE ISSUES

6383. Mr M.P. Whitely to the Minister for Corrective Services

I refer to Karnet Prison and I ask:

- (a) have there been maintenance problems with the sewerage system in 2011;
- (b) if yes, what was the nature of the problems and when did they occur;
- (c) were any rooms unable to be used as a result of the sewerage problems and if so which rooms; and
- (d) if rooms were unable to be used, how many rooms were unable to be used and for how long?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) There have been 14 faults on the sewerage system reported and rectified in 2011.
- (b) [See paper 4226.]
- (c) No.
- (d) Not applicable.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE — MEMBERSHIP

6384. Mr M. McGowan to the Premier

- (1) How many members of the Senior Executive Service were there as at 31 December 2010?
- (2) How many members of the Senior Executive Service were there as at 30 June 2011?
- (3) How many members of the Senior Executive Service are there as at 18 October 2011?
- (4) What was the proportion of SES members to Western Australian public sector employees as at:
 - (a) 31 December 2010;
 - (b) 30 June 2011; and
 - (c) 18 October 2011?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

Public Sector Commissioner advises:

- (1) As at 31 December 2010 there were 415 members of the Senior Executive Service.
- (2) As at 30 June 2011 there were 442 members of the Senior Executive Service.
- (3) As at 18 October 2011 there were 450 members of the Senior Executive Service.
- (4) The proportion of Senior Executive Service employees to Western Australian public sector employees for the dates requested is as follows:
 - (a) 31 December 2010 — 0.41%
 - (b) 30 June 2011 — 0.42%
 - (c) 18 October 2011 — 0.43% [¹]

NOTE: Factors that may contribute to the variation in the figures provided in response to 1, 2 and 3 may include the filling of Senior executive Service vacancies, machinery of government changes, and addressing changes in service delivery demands and expectations.

[¹] The Western Australian Public Sector Workforce Reports on which the proportional figures are calculated are issued quarterly in March, June, September and December of each year. The FTE figure used in answer 4(c) is from the June 2011 Workforce Report. The September 2011 Workforce Report figures are not yet available.

PERTH WATERFRONT PROJECT — ENGINEERING ISSUES

6386. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Water

In relation to the Minister's department's submission to the Metropolitan Amendment scheme proposal regarding the Perth Waterfront, I ask:

- (a) why did your department express opposition to development over the Perth Central Sewerage Pumping Station and identify a number of fairly costly and complex engineering issues; and
- (b) do you share your expert officers' view, and if not, why not?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) The Department of Water did not provide any comment regarding development over the Perth Central Sewerage Pumping Station besides the need to consult with the Water Corporation as the asset owner and operator.
- (b) Not applicable

PERTH WATERFRONT PROJECT — PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY SUBMISSION

6387. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Transport

In relation to the Public Transport Authority's (PTA) submission to the Metropolitan Amendment scheme proposal regarding the Perth Waterfront, I ask:

- (a) why did the PTA express concerns over the proposal and in which particular aspects; and
- (b) do you share your expert officers' view, and if not, why not?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Public Transport Authority advises:

- (a) The West Australian Planning Commission sought comments from the Public Transport Authority (PTA) to the proposed WAPC Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1203/41 (Perth Waterfront), as per the normal statutory process. In leading its response, the PTA clearly stated its support for the proposal.

The comments made by the PTA were in the spirit of the Amendment process seeking stakeholder input; in this case to highlight that further consultation should be undertaken with the PTA to optimise integration between the proposed development, and the PTA's service obligations and its infrastructure.
- (b) The comments made by the PTA were legitimate comments on public transport integration and support to the site indicating that further planning is needed as the project progresses.

PERTH WATERFRONT PROJECT — SWAN RIVER TRUST SUBMISSION

6388. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Environment

In relation to the Swan River Trust's submission to the Metropolitan Amendment scheme proposal regarding the Perth Waterfront, I ask:

- (a) why did the Swan River Trust identify some problems with the process and identify a number of processes that needed to be met, as well as note that the environmental impact issues were undervalued in the assessment and needed to be raised to a high rather than medium level; and
- (b) do you share your expert officers' view, and if not, why not?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a)–(b) The Swan River Trust provided a response to the proposed Metropolitan Region Scheme amendment for the Perth Waterfront project and the Environmental Assessment Report that was prepared in support of it.

The Environmental Assessment Report is a scoping document that identifies the need for further management responses to potential impacts. The Environmental Protection Authority will decide the level of assessment required for the project when the development applications are referred to it by the Department for Planning under section 38 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

PERTH WATERFRONT PROJECT — INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS SUBMISSION

6389. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

In relation to the Department of Indigenous Affairs' submission to the Metropolitan Amendment scheme proposal regarding the Perth Waterfront, I ask:

- (a) why did the DIA advise that consultation with South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council only did not constitute appropriate consultation; and
- (b) do you share your expert officers' view, and if not, why not?

Mr M.J. COWPER replied:

- (a) The DIA recommends, as normal practice, that wide consultation should be undertaken, to include those with cultural knowledge as well as native title claimants and holders.
- (b) Yes.

PERTH WATERFRONT PROJECT — TRAFFIC ISSUES

6390. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Transport

In relation to the Department of Transport's submission to the Metropolitan Amendment scheme proposal regarding the Perth Waterfront, I ask:

- (a) why did your department identify problems with the proposed reclassification of the area (not in keeping with other road reserves) and also identify traffic as a significant issue for the project; and
- (b) do you share your expert officers' view, and if not, why not?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Transport advises:

- (a) The Department of Transport's submission sought to clarify the boundary between the zoning for the waterfront development and the primary regional road reservation for the freeway interchange.
The Department of Transport's submission did not identify traffic as a significant issue for the project. It focussed on the growth in inner city traffic due to the City of Perth experiencing one of the most transformative periods in its development history.
- (b) Yes.

AUSTRAC—CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION — LIAISON

6392. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Attorney General

In relation to the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), which lists the Corruption and Crime Commission (CCC) as a partner, I ask:

- (a) on how many occasions did the CCC request AUSTRAC assistance in 2010–11, and in the preceding three financial years;
- (b) on how many occasions did AUSTRAC officially contact the CCC with non-requested information leading to an investigation; and
- (c) what official protocol governs the sharing of information between AUSTRAC and the CCC?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

- (a) Seven.

- (b) Four.
- (c) Memorandum of Understanding between the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) and the Commissioner of the Corruption and Crime Commission of Western Australia regarding access to and use of AUSTRAC information or documents containing AUSTRAC information, dated 2 October 2008.

AUSTRAC—DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND FINANCE — LIAISON

6393. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Treasurer

- (1) On how many occasions did the Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance request the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) assistance in 2010–11, and in the preceding three financial years?
- (2) On how many occasions did AUSTRAC officially contact the Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance with non-requested information leading to an investigation?
- (3) What official protocol governs the sharing of information between AUSTRAC and the Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

- (1) The Department of Treasury and Finance, as administrator of the Parliamentary Pension Scheme and the Judges Pension Scheme, sought an exemption from provisions of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006 (the Act) in December 2009. The exemptions were sought as the nature of the schemes is such that breaches of the Act were considered to be negligible. AUSTRAC granted the requested exemption on 20 May 2010.
- (2) Nil
- (3) The Commonwealth's Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006 and Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988 are administered by AUSTRAC and apply to all cash dealers as defined by the Acts. The Department of Treasury and Finance has an exemption from provisions of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006 (see part 1). No formal protocols between AUSTRAC and the Department of Treasury and Finance have been required to date for data sharing under these Acts.

COLLGAR WIND FARM — ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COSTS

6394. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister representing the Minister for Energy

- (1) Why was \$499 million in costs included in government accounts for supply of electricity from the Collgar Windfarm near Merredin?
- (2) Why was this \$499 million removed from the accounts as a contribution to state debt by redefining it from a 'finance lease' to an 'operating lease'?
- (3) Was the decision to classify this contract as being an "operating lease" in keeping with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)?
- (4) If yes to (3), when was this advice given and by whom was it given?
- (5) If no to (3), then what were the accounting standards by which it was judged to be an operating lease?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (1) The impact on the State from the Collgar Windfarm arose from the original Collgar contract with Synergy being initially classified as a finance lease for accounting purposes. Synergy was therefore required to incorporate approximately \$499 million of both assets and liabilities into its balance sheet in 2011/12.
- (2) Following changes to the terms and conditions of the Collgar contract, subsequent accounting advice recommended the classification of the revised transaction as an operating lease. This meant that the contract no longer had to be recognised on balance sheet. Synergy's and the State's budget position was adjusted accordingly.
- (3) Yes
- (4) Advice was received in September 2009 from Ernst & Young.
- (5) Not applicable.

TAFE WORKERS — EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS

6395. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Training and Workforce Development

- (1) In negotiating with the State School Teachers' Union of Western Australia for a new TAFE Agreement, why has the Government seen fit to deny workers access to long term stable employment by indicating it may wish to remove any form of conversion to permanency in the agreement?

Mr M.J. COWPER replied:

- (1) The recently introduced Commissioner's Instruction Filling a Public Sector Vacancy sets out the requirements which apply when filling a vacancy in the Western Australian Public Sector, including for TAFE lecturers.

The Commissioner's Instruction specifies how public sector employing authorities may appoint employees on fixed term contracts of service permanently to a vacancy.

Given the introduction of the Commissioner's Instruction it is not necessary to duplicate these procedural matters in agreements.

WATER CORPORATION — RESIDENTIAL SUPPLY REVENUE

6397. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Water

What is the total revenue to the Water Corporation from residential water usage and fixed supply charges for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) 2010–11 \$381 million (actual)
- (b)–(e) These are estimates only — they are subject to change as water, drainage and sewerage prices are determined annually by the Government as part of budget process. 2011–12 \$479 million; 2012–13 \$559 million; 2013–14 \$653 million; 2014–15 \$728 million

WATER CORPORATION — RESIDENTIAL SUPPLY REVENUE

6398. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Water

What is the total revenue to the Water Corporation from residential sewerage charges for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) 2010–11 \$411 million (actual)
- (b)–(e) These are estimates only — they are subject to change as water, drainage and sewerage prices are determined annually by the Government as part of budget process. 2011–12 \$443 million; 2012–13 \$478 million; 2013–14 \$511 million; 2014–15 \$545 million

WATER CORPORATION — RESIDENTIAL SUPPLY REVENUE

6399. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Water

What is the total revenue to the Water Corporation from residential drainage charges for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;

- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) 2010–11 \$24 million (actual)
- (b)–(e) These are estimates only — they are subject to change as water, drainage and sewerage prices are determined annually by the Government as part of budget process. 2011–12 \$25 million; 2012–13 \$26 million; 2013–14 \$28 million; 2014–15 \$29 million.

MOTOR VEHICLE LICENCE FEES — GOVERNMENT REVENUE

6400. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Transport

What is the total revenue to government from motor vehicle licence fees for vehicles charged at the family vehicle rate, including the recording fee for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Transport advises:

- (a)–(e) 2010–11 (actual) = \$267 031 000
- 2011–12 (budget estimates) = \$275 042 000
- 2012–13 (budget estimates) = \$283 293 000
- 2013–14 (budget estimates) = \$291 792 000
- 2014–15 (budget estimates) = \$300 546 000

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE — EXOTIC MEATS SOLD

6401. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

In relation to the Department of Agriculture facilities in South Perth and elsewhere in the State I ask:

- (a) are exotic meats sold by the Department, either through its canteens or to the public; and
- (b) is American Bison meat sold, and if yes, is the Minister aware as to whether the sourced bison is cliff-pushed or free range?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) No. The Department of Agriculture and Food (the Department) does not operate any canteens nor sell meat to the public. The canteen at the Department's South Perth site is operated by a private contractor engaged by the staff Social Club, not by the Department. The South Perth canteen does not sell exotic meats to Department staff or the public. On occasions, such as during Naidoc Week, the South Perth canteen may offer cooked dishes containing kangaroo, which is defined as 'game' under the Food Regulations 2009.
- (b) No. American Bison is not sold by the South Perth canteen. There are no canteens at other Department sites. The Department does not sell meat to the public.

SCHOOLS — MOBILE PHONE USE — TRUANCY

6402. Mr P.B. Watson to the Minister for Education

- (1) Will the Minister please advise what the policy is on the use of mobile phones in primary schools and high schools for students and teachers?
- (2) For the 12 months ending 31 October 2011 how many children were dealt with by the Albany truancy officer, and
 - (a) what were the ages of the children; and
 - (b) how many had been dealt with on more than one occasion?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (1) The School Education Act 1999 states that principals are responsible for the day to day management and control of the school which includes the management of mobile phones. The Behaviour Management in Schools policy states that Principals must ensure student mobile phones are switched off and not used in classrooms and that principals must develop and publish conditions on the use of mobile phones by all students at the school.

In 2009 Ms Sharyn O'Neill, Director General, Department of Education issued a statement to principals aimed at preventing inappropriate use of mobile phones in schools. This statement included:

- the requirement that schools have a mobile phone policy statement clearly stating the rules regarding mobile phone use;
- the school's right to ban the use of mobile phones following community consultation;
- the expectation that principals would suspend students involved in the recording, distributing or uploading of inappropriate material; and
- acknowledgement of a parent's right to provide mobile phones to their children for safety reasons.

- (2) For the 12 months ending 31 October 2011, the retention and participation officer in Albany worked with 250 students.
- (a) Ages of the children ranged from 5 to 15 years of age.
- (b) 150 students.

HAKEA PRISON — SERVICES PROVISION

6403. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Corrective Services

- (1) Does the Western Australian Government manage all activities and services run at Hakea prison/detention centre, and if not, what services are contracted out?
- (2) For any contracted-out services, are the operators paid on a 'per head' basis for each detainee, or is it a fixed fee, and:
- (a) if a fixed fee, what is that fee per annum per detainee; and
- (b) if it is a 'per head' fee, what is that fee and how much does it equate to per annum for each detainee?
- (3) How many overseas detainees are detained at Hakea and from what countries?
- (4) How many detainees are Federal prisoners and how many are State prisoners?
- (5) What revenue from the Commonwealth is received for detaining Federal detainees and what percentage of the actual costs of incarcerating each detainee is not covered by the Commonwealth?
- (6) What are the extra costs incurred in detaining overseas-origin detainees?
- (7) For State Government run services at Hakea Prison, how much per detainee per annum does it cost the State?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (1) The Department of Corrective Services manages and operates the majority of services at Hakea Prison. However, there are several programs that are contracted out to non Government organisations. These include:

Department of Corrective Services contracted services

Life Skills: Re-entry program with modules covering money management, accommodation, employability and healthy lifestyles.

Remand Services: This service provides assistance to prisoners to help them to resolve personal issues related to imprisonment up to two weeks from intake into prison.

Re-entry Services: Case management service providing prisoners with advocacy and referral services six months pre-release and up to 12 months post release.

Kids Connect: This service consists of individual parenting support, advocacy, parenting education and family support service to children and families in the community.

Hakea specific contract

Brief Intervention Services: This service delivers a comprehensive drug and alcohol information package to prisoners.

Funded by other sources

Stay Connected: This program assists prisoners in keeping their jobs whilst on remand.

Family Relationships Australia: This is an initiative to strengthen family relationships and provide information and referral to other support services.

Dad's Lifeline: Provides counselling, group work, information and advocacy for the vulnerable groups of separated fathers and their children.

Drug and Alcohol Through-care Service: Drug and Alcohol Through-care Service adopts a case-management approach that provides counselling and support to prisoners who volunteer to engage in the service. This service is provided to prisoners three months pre-release with post release support.

Men's Healing Program: The program focuses on Aboriginal men imprisoned, and within three to six months of release from prison into the metropolitan area. The program provides through-care and aims to remain engaged with the clients for up to six months post release. The program addresses the cause and consequences of alcohol and drug related problems experienced by these prisoners, and where appropriate, their families and significant others.

Companion Animal Service Employment Centre: This program aims to improve the chances of prisoners to gain meaningful employment through a community service work site embedded in the prison confines. Prisoners with a through-care advocate are mentored and supported through a six week program of caring for, managing, training and assessing ex-racing greyhounds. The program will focus on the development of employability skills in a real work setting to facilitate employment outcomes on release.

(2) The operators of these services are paid a fixed fee.

(a) The Department provides \$2 332 398 of annual funding for the following programs:

- Life Skills
- Remand Service
- Re-entry Service

This is for all metropolitan male prisons and cannot be broken down by prison.

The Department provides \$120 388 annually for the 'Kids Connect' program. Brief intervention services receives \$130 000 annually from the Hakea Prison budget.

In regards to the services funded by other sources, these are funded by grants and other funding provided directly to the non Government organisations.

(b) Not applicable.

(3) As at 31 October 2011, there are 89 overseas detainees located at Hakea. [See paper 4227.]

(4) As at 31 October 2011, there are 21 Federal prisoners and 746 State prisoners located at Hakea.

(5) The Department does not recoup any costs from the Commonwealth for detaining Federal prisoners. However, it should be noted that there is an existing agreement with the Commonwealth to recoup costs for any prisoners incarcerated in Western Australia from the Indian Ocean Territories (i.e. Christmas and Cocos Islands).

(6) Other than incidental expenses such as interpreter services, extra costs are not incurred imprisoning overseas-origin prisoners.

(7) The cost per day of keeping an offender in custody was reported as \$291.51 in the Department of Corrective Services' 2010–11 Annual Report.

TAFE LECTURERS — INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE

6404. Ms J.M. Freeman to the Minister representing the Minister for Commerce

Given the large deficiency in training places and the need to retain lecturers at Polytechnic West College, Balga, I ask:

- (a) why has the Government failed to negotiate in good faith with the State School Teachers Union (SSTU); and
- (b) why has the Government failed to recognise the productivity, past and future, associated with the upgrading of the Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment and accept the SSTU's claim for 5.5% in September 2011; 5.75% in September 2012; and 5.75% in September 2013?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

- (a) The Government has bargained in good faith.
- (b) The Employers' offer of 12% over three years (3.75%, 4% and 4.25%) recognises past productivity and provides an increase to the real value of TAFE lecturers' salaries. The salary increases sought by the Union, totalling 17% over three years, are in excess of Government Wages Policy.

STATE LIBRARY — WEST AUSTRALIAN BOOKS POLICY

6405. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Culture and the Arts

- (1) Does the State Library of Western Australia have a policy regarding the purchasing and disposal of West Australian published books, and:
 - (a) if so can the Minister please provide it; and
 - (b) if not why not?
- (2) What is the policy for the scanning and website posting of books by the State Library of Western Australia?
- (3) If there is not a policy, how is the decision on what books will be scanned made?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (1) Yes. The State Library of Western Australia has a Collection Development Policy and associated policy framework "Developing our Collections".
 - (a) Yes. [See paper 4228.] These documents are also available on the State Library of Western Australia's website.
 - (b) Not applicable
- (2) The State Library has a Collection Reformatting Policy which outlines the following principles for the reformatting (including digitisation) of collection materials:
 - Items of particular historical and/or cultural significance;
 - Items at risk or to which access is restricted due its condition or value;
 - Unique material;
 - Collections in high demand;
 - Items selected for publication or exhibition by the Library;
 - Material for which copyright restrictions have expired or permission to reformat has been obtained;
 - Collection material that is relatively unknown where reformatting will promote use of the items.

The State Library makes digitised materials accessible to the public through its online database in accordance with applicable copyright and donor agreements.

The goals of reformatting (including digitisation) are:

- To build more accessible content relating to Western Australia's documentary and cultural heritage to support research and library programs;
 - To preserve rare and fragile collections;
 - To enable people, regardless of location, to directly access and use a range of collection materials without having to visit the Library; and
 - To engage with new audiences by making collections available online and through innovative technologies.
- (3) Not applicable

RESIDENTIAL WATER ACCOUNTS — NUMBER

6408. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Water

What is the actual or anticipated number of residences billed and the average annual household payment for residential water usage and fixed supply charge for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

Estimated number of residences billed (water)

- (a) 2010–11 917,218 (actual)
- (b) 2011–12 941,066 (anticipated)
- (c) 2012–13 965,533 (anticipated)
- (d) 2013–14 991,603 (anticipated)
- (e) 2014–15 1,018,376 (anticipated)

Average annual household payment for residential water usage (270 kL) and fixed supply charge:

- (a) 2010–11 \$482 (actual)
- (b)–(e) These are estimates only — they are subject to change as water, drainage and sewerage prices are determined annually by the Government as part of budget process. 2011–12 \$550; 2012–13 \$624; 2013–14 \$706; 2014–15 \$756

RESIDENTIAL DRAINAGE ACCOUNTS — NUMBER

6409. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Water

What is the actual or anticipated number of residences billed and the average annual household payment for residential drainage charges for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

Estimated number of residences billed (drainage):

- (a) 2010–11 312,333 (actual)
- (b) 2011–12 317,330 (anticipated)
- (c) 2012–13 322,408 (anticipated)
- (d) 2013–14 327,566 (anticipated)
- (e) 2014–15 332,807 (anticipated)

Average annual household payment for residential drainage charge*:

- (a) 2010–11 \$90 (actual)
- (b)–(e) These are estimates only — they are subject to change as water, drainage and sewerage prices are determined annually by the Government as part of budget process. 2011–12 \$93; 2012–13 \$96; 2013–14 \$99; 2014–15 \$102.

* Metropolitan only

RESIDENTIAL SEWERAGE ACCOUNTS — NUMBER

6410. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Water

What is the actual or anticipated number of residences billed and the average annual household payment for residential sewerage charges for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

Estimated number of residences billed (sewerage):

- (a) 2010–11 782,420 (actual)

- (b) 2011–12 806,675 (anticipated)
- (c) 2012–13 831,682 (anticipated)
- (d) 2013–14 857,464 (anticipated)
- (e) 2014–15 884,045 (anticipated)

Average annual household payment for residential sewerage charge*:

- (a) 2010–11 \$584 (actual)
- (b)–(e) These are estimates only — they are subject to change as water, drainage and sewerage prices are determined annually by the Government as part of budget process. 2011–12 \$612; 2012–13 \$642; 2013–14 \$663; 2014–15 \$684;

*Average metropolitan household charge. Country charges vary with each town.

MOTOR VEHICLE LICENCE FEES

6411. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Transport

What is the actual or anticipated number of vehicles for which licence fees are charged at the family vehicle rate for:

- (a) 2010–11;
- (b) 2011–12, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (c) 2012–13, from the 2011 budget estimates;
- (d) 2013–14, from the 2011 budget estimates; and
- (e) 2014–15, from the 2011 budget estimates?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Transport advises:

- (a)–(e) 2010–11 (actual) = 1 244 172
- 2011–12 (budget estimates) = 1 281 426
- 2012–13 (budget estimates) = 1 319 869
- 2013–14 (budget estimates) = 1 359 465
- 2014–15 (budget estimates) = 1 400 249

AMELIA STREET, BALCATT A — DAILY VEHICLE COUNT

6412. Mr J.C. Kobelke to the Minister for Transport

In relation to the answer for question on notice 5998 presented on 18 October 2011, I ask is it correct that the daily vehicle count for Amelia Street in Balcatta near Balcatta Senior High School is 12,398; and

- (a) if so, then when was this count taken and by what method or instrument; and
- (b) if not, then what is the most recent daily vehicle count for this section of Amelia Street and on what date(s) was this?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

The daily vehicle count on Amelia Street that was provided as the answer to question on notice 5998 was 12 398. The count site is located near Main Street and is approximately 1 km to the east of the Balcatta Senior High School.

- (a)–(b) The traffic count referred to in question on notice 5998 was undertaken by the City of Stirling in 2007/08 using a pneumatic tube device on Amelia Street approximately 1 km east of Balcatta High School.

As Amelia Street is a local road under Council control and management, the Member may wish to approach Council regarding any further data that may have been collected.

COUNTRY AGE PENSION FUEL CARD — MANDURAH EXTENSION

6413. Mr D.A. Templeman to the Minister for Regional Development

I refer to the Country Pensioner Fuel card and ask, if the Country Pensioner Fuel Card was extended to the Mandurah and Dawesville electorates, what would be the estimated total cost in doing so?

Mr B.J. GRYLLES replied:

The cost is dependent on the number of pensioner/benefit recipients in the Mandurah and Dawesville electorates. The information on the number of pensioner/benefit recipient numbers for Age Pension, Carer Payment, Disability Support Pension, Widow B Pension and Wife Pension is available from Centrelink, and from the Department of Veterans' Affairs for its Service Pension, Social Security Age Pension or Income Support.

PEEL REGIONAL PARK — FUNDING

6414. Mr D.A. Templeman to the Minister for Environment

I refer to the proposed Peel Region Park and ask,

- (a) what have you and the Department of Environment and Conservation done to progress the funding of this Park in the Peel Region; and
- (b) what is the current funding requirement to fund the establishment and management of the Peel Region Park?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a) The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) continues to liaise with the Department of Planning (DoP) regarding planning for its establishment. DoP takes the lead role in planning for, and assembling land in, new regional parks.
- (b) A budget allocation will be considered by Government once it has considered a plan for the park's establishment. In the interim, public lands within the proposed park are being managed by the respective government agencies within existing budgets.

WATER — DEMAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

6417. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Water

- (1) What is the total budget allocation by the Water Corporation for demand management programs for householders, including:
 - (a) advertising budget (marketing, agency costs, media costs);
 - (b) website development and management;
 - (c) staff involved in program policy development and implementation;
 - (d) contractors delivering demand management programs; and
 - (e) hardware and retrofit packages?
- (2) What is the contribution of Federal Government funding to this demand management budget?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (1) (a)–(e) The Water Corporation has a budget of \$20.1 million for the years 2010 to 2013 in relation to specific household demand management programs. Additionally, the Corporation has a budget of \$3 million for advertising costs and \$0.2 million for website development and management costs in relation to general demand management issues.
- (2) \$10.05 million (50%) of the budget for specific household demand management programs is funded by contributions from the Federal Government.

SYNERGY — DEMAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

6418. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister representing the Minister for Energy

What is the total budget allocation by Synergy for demand management programs for householders, including:

- (a) advertising budget (marketing, agency costs, media costs);
- (b) website development and management;
- (c) staff involved in program policy development and implementation; and
- (d) contractors involved in program implementation?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a)–(d) Synergy does not engage in demand management activities.

WESTERN POWER — DEMAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

6419. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister representing the Minister for Energy

What is the total budget allocation by Western Power for demand management programs for householders, including:

- (a) advertising budget (marketing, agency costs, media costs);
- (b) website development and management;
- (c) staff involved in program policy development and implementation; and
- (d) contractors involved in program implementation?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a) \$35,000 for 2011/12.
- (b) There are no budgeted separate website development and management costs associated with the various demand management programs. The existing Western Power website and internal resources are utilised to provide information on the various initiatives.
- (c) \$1,002 million for 2011/12.
- (d) \$249,850 for 2011/12.

WESTERN GREY KANGAROOS — PERMITS TO KILL

6420. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment

With reference to the issue of permits to kill Western Grey kangaroos, can the Minister please advise:

- (a) the number of permit holders in the following local government areas in the 2010–2011 financial year:
 - (i) City of Gosnells;
 - (ii) City of Armadale;
 - (iii) City of Swan;
 - (iv) Shire of Mundaring; and
 - (v) Shire of Chittering;
- (b) the number of Western Grey Kangaroos that were permitted to be killed in the following local government areas in the 2010–2011 financial year:
 - (i) City of Gosnells;
 - (ii) City of Armadale;
 - (iii) City of Swan;
 - (iv) Shire of Mundaring; and
 - (v) Shire of Chittering?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a)
 - (i) 1 damage licence.
 - (ii) 3 damage licences.
 - (iii) 33 damage licences.
 - (iv) 12 damage licences.
 - (v) Unlike the local government areas referred to in (i) to (iv) where a damage licence is required, the Shire of Chittering is in an open season area where a damage licence is not required. A professional shooter's licence is required for kangaroos taken commercially. Data are recorded on the basis of management blocks and 18 professional shooters are reported as having been active in the block that includes the Shire of Chittering as well as the Shire of Gingin.
- (b)
 - (i) 10
 - (ii) 53
 - (iii) 2,145
 - (iv) 373
 - (v) 4,265 in the relevant management block.

CHEMICAL SPRAYING INFORMATION — LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

6421. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

- (1) With reference to information being supplied to agriculture and horticulture producers; what action is being taken to ensure that information on chemical spraying is produced in languages other than English?

- (2) In how many languages does the Department of Agriculture and Food provide information such as farmnotes?
- (3) Does the Department of Agriculture and Food provide seminars, field days workshops for horticultural producers in languages other than English, and if yes, in what other languages and in connection to which crops?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (1) The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority provides information on farm chemical label interpretation in Vietnamese.
- (2) Farmnotes are published in English.
- (3) Field day materials are translated into other languages, most commonly Vietnamese, on an as needs basis. Drought Pilot resilience workshops were conducted in Vietnamese in Carnarvon.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES — COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT UNIT

6423. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts; Science and Innovation

- (1) For each Department and Agency within the Minister's portfolios, does the agency have a complaints management unit?
- (2) If yes to (1), how many complaints have been received by the agency since 23 September 2008?
- (3) How many have been received by the agency since 23 September 2010?
- (4) What are the categories of complaints received?
- (5) What is the nature of complaints in each category?
- (6) How many of the total complaints fall into each category?
- (7) How many complaints in each category are under investigation by the Corruption and Crime Commission?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

Department of Planning

- (1) No, the Department of Planning does not have a specific Complaints Management Unit. However an Independent Planning Reviewer role has been appointed to review specific planning complaints. Customer Feedback System was put in place 1 July 2009.
- (2) 73
- (3) 37
- (4) Planning Issues
Service
Other
- (5) Disagreement with Planning decisions
Complaints about other Organisations
Unhappy with Service
Property Management Issues
- (6) Planning Issues — 20
Service — 7
Other — 10
- (7) Nil.

Department for Culture and the Arts

- (1) No. However relevant complaints management systems and processes are in place.
- (2) 24
- (3) 6
- (4) Arts Policy, Funding and Support
Independent arts organisations
Website and communications
- (5) Arts Policy, Funding and Support

- Queries on funding decisions and complaints on not receiving funding
- Seeking wider guidelines/policy and opportunities
- Query on public art funding

Independent Arts Organisations

- Issues related to conflict of interest and decision making
- Limited access to PICA performance space

Website and Communications

- Online exhibitions query
- Seeking more information on website
- Freedom of Information statement
- Technical issues

- (6) Arts Policy, Funding and Support: 16
Independent Arts Organisations: 2
Website and Communications: 6

- (7) Nil.

Please note there is a discrepancy in figures from Question of Notice 1310. This has been rectified as the result of a more robust system for collecting complaints and recording them accordingly.

ScreenWest

- (1) No. However relevant complaints management systems and processes are in place.
- (2) 7
- (3) 1
- (4) *ScreenOnline* ScreenWest's weekly e-newsletter
- (5) Error in *ScreenOnline* ScreenWest's weekly e-newsletter
- (6) 1
- (7) Nil.

State Library of Western Australia

- (1) No. However relevant complaints management systems and processes are in place.
- (2) 499
- (3) 195
- (4) Staff, Technology
Facilities/Maintenance
Disturbances
Services
Collections
Other
- (5) Staff: Skill levels, attitude, lack of staffing.
Technology: WiFi, availability, access, ease of use.
Facilities/Maintenance: Availability, storage, security, access.
Disturbances: Noise, other clients, events.
Services: Availability, fees charged.
Collections: Availability, access, condition, range.
Other: Public libraries, access, communication, events.
- (6) Staff: 25
Technology: 51
Facilities/Maintenance: 30
Disturbances: 28
Services: 29
Collections: 15
Other: 17
- (7) Nil.

Perth Theatre Trust

- (1) No. However relevant complaints management systems and processes are in place.

- (2) 181
- (3) 44
- (4) Venues — customer service
- (5) Venues — customer service
- (6) Venues — customer service 44
- (7) Nil.

Western Australian Museum

- (1) No. However relevant complaints management systems and processes are in place.
- (2) The Museum's present system of gathering comments does not adequately differentiate between comments, compliments and complaints. On that basis it is not currently possible to identify the actual number of complaints. The total number of comments received by the Museum for the period is 1,138
- (3) The total number of comments received by the Museum for the period is 307
- (4) Welcome Walls
Facilities Management
Marketing
Public Programs
Exhibition and Design
Customer Service
Retail
- (5) Welcome Walls: Delays and inaccuracies
Facilities Management: Limited signage, parking, access, hospitality and public amenities (inside and outside), air conditioning and a range of maintenance issues
Marketing: Inaccurate or limited publicity and updates on internet
Public Programs: Limited children's activities and weekend events offered
Exhibition and Design: Range of technical issues regarding exhibitions; space and acoustic issues; value for money
Customer Service: Unsatisfactory customer service; Lack of EFTPOS facilities.
Retail: Inaccurate information provided on items sold.
- (6) The number of comments in each category were:
Welcome Walls: 69
Facilities Management: 42
Marketing: 18
Public Program: 8
Exhibition and Design: 146
Customer Service: 18
Retail: 7
- (7) Nil.

Art Gallery of Western Australia

- (1) No. However relevant complaints management systems and processes are in place.
- (2) 57
- (3) 19
- (4) Security
Exhibitions and Displays
Tuesday closure
Gallery openings
Café
Website
Acquisitions policy
Public programs
Cultural centre events
Customer service
ArtBar

- (5) Security guards too intrusive
 Didn't like a particular exhibition, display or artwork
 Objection to the Art Gallery being closed on Tuesday
 Objection to Foundation members being given preview prior to public opening
 Level of service/cleanliness
 Difficulty finding phone number on website
 Upset that art work offered had not been acquired
 General complaint about LegoArt event
 Complaint about Laneway Festival
 Complaint about handling of enquiry by Reception staff
 Complaint about noise at ArtBar event

- (6) Security: 2
 Exhibitions and Displays: 4
 Tuesday closure: 3
 Gallery opening events: 1
 Café: 2
 Website: 1
 Acquisitions policy: 1
 Public programs: 1
 Cultural centre events: 1
 Customer service: 1
 ArtBar: 2

- (7) Nil.

State Records Office

- (1) No. However relevant complaints management systems and processes are in place.
 (2) Nil.
 (3)–(7) Not applicable.

Armadale Redevelopment Authority

- (1) No.
 (2)–(7) Not applicable.

East Perth Redevelopment Authority/Subiaco Redevelopment Authority

- (1) No, the East Perth Redevelopment Authority (EPRA) and Subiaco Redevelopment Authority (SRA) do not have a complaints management unit, however all complaints received are addressed by the relevant business unit. Both agencies have arrangements in place to ensure compliance with the Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2009–27 — Complaint Management.
 (2)–(7) Not Applicable.

LandCorp

- (1) Yes.
 (2) Nil.
 (3)–(7) Not Applicable.

Department of Commerce — Science and Innovation Division

- (1) No. The Department of Commerce maintains a complaints database in accordance with the Australian Standard on Complaints Handling (AS ISO 10002) and Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2009–27.
 (2) 3.
 (3) Nil.
 (4) Timeliness and Information Quality.
 (5) Website information and time taken responding to query.
 (6) 2 x Information Quality, 1 x Timeliness.
 (7) Nil.

ChemCentre

- (1) ChemCentre does not have a complaints management unit as such. However, there is an electronic tool for managing ChemCentre's corrective and preventative actions, system failures and improvements,

complaints and compliments. This requires formal sign-off by senior management. Complaints are handled through this and other processes, as appropriate e.g. Freedom of Information, Office of the Public Service Standards Commissioner. The complaints handling process is designed to meet Australian Standard 'AS-ISO10 002 'Complaint Handling'.

- (2) There have been 10 complaints since 23 September 2008
- (3) Four of these have been received since 23 September 2010
- (4) 4 related to turnaround times; 4 related to inaccurate or incomplete data on reports; 1 related to poor telephone manner; 1 related to miscommunication with a supplier of a reference material.
- (5) 4 related to turnaround times; 4 related to inaccurate or incomplete data on reports; 1 related to poor telephone manner; 1 related to miscommunication with a supplier of a reference material.
- (6) 4 related to turnaround times; 4 related to inaccurate or incomplete data on reports; 1 related to poor telephone manner; 1 related to miscommunication with a supplier of a reference material.
- (7) None of these are under investigation by the Crime and Corruption Commission, to the best of our knowledge.

Midland Redevelopment Authority

- (1) No, however any complaints received are addressed by the relevant business unit.
- (2)–(7) Not applicable.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT — CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE PACKAGE

6425. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment

In relation to the funding available through the Federal Government's Clean Energy Futures package, can the Minister please advise:

- (a) what action has the Western Australian Government taken to secure funding for Western Australia;
- (b) how much money is being sought;
- (c) what projects are being proposed as recipient projects for the funds?

Mr W.R. MARMION replied:

- (a)–(c) A response will be forthcoming from the Minister for Energy.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT — CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE PACKAGE

6426. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister representing the Minister for Energy

In relation to the funding available through the Federal Government's Clean Energy Futures package, can the Minister please advise:

- (a) what action has the Western Australian Government taken to secure funding for Western Australia;
- (b) how much money is being sought; and
- (c) what projects are being proposed as recipient projects for the funds?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a) The Clean Energy Future Package incorporates a number of pre-existing and new Commonwealth Government funding commitments across a range of industry and agricultural sectors, including those relating to the energy portfolio.

The State Government is participating in a number of inter-jurisdictional forums and consultation processes associated with the development of programs and guidelines for administration of the funding commitments under the Clean Energy Package. This participation is aimed at ensuring that such guidelines do not preclude participation by projects based in Western Australia. Forums and consultation processes associated with the energy portfolio include the:

- Australian Centre for Renewable Energy State and Territory Network;
- Energy Sector Transition Committee; and
- Clean Technology Programs — the Western Australian Government has provided a submission on the Clean Technology Programs Discussion Paper (September 2011).

- (b)–(c) Funding applications made in respect of the above programs are submitted by individual project proponents rather than the State Government.

ALBANY RING ROAD — STAGES 2 AND 3

6427. Mr P.B. Watson to the Minister for Transport

I refer to the Albany Ring Road and ask,

- (a) what is the cost and completion date for stage 2 and when will work commence on this stage; and
- (b) what is the estimated cost and completion date for stage 3 and when is work planned to commence on this stage?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

- (a)–(b) It is anticipated that Stage 2 and 3 will be delivered together to form a connection to the Port of Albany. The preliminary cost estimate for the delivery of Stage 2 and 3 is \$100m.

DIABETES TYPES 1 AND 2 — INCIDENCE

6428. Mr R.H. Cook to the Minister for Health

What are the current and five year projected incidence of the following conditions:

- (a) Type I diabetes;
- (b) Type II diabetes; and
- (c) patients requiring renal dialysis?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

- (a) Current incidence (2006) in Western Australia — 8.1 per 100,000 population
Projected incidence (2011) in Western Australia — 7.9 per 100,000 population
- (b) Current incidence (2006) in Western Australia — 505.9 per 100,000 population
Projected incidence (2011) in Western Australia — 573.4 per 100,000 population
- (c) Current incidence (2009) in Western Australia — 10.3 per 100,000 population
Projected incidence (2014) in Western Australia — 11.5 per 100,000 population

Note:

The Type I and Type II diabetes data comes from National Burden of Disease Study (Begg et al 2007) conducted by the Australian Institution of Health and Wellbeing.

The renal dialysis data has been derived from the most current data available. Source: ANZDATA Registry Report 2010. Australia and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry. Appendix II, p5–6. Data projection: Rates Calculator v5.3.4, Epidemiology Branch, Department of Health Western Australia.

MEDICAL RESEARCH FUNDING

6429. Mr R.H. Cook to the Minister for Health

- (1) What is the expenditure of state medical research funding, broken down by application/projects, institutions and areas of research, for the following years:
 - (a) 2007/08;
 - (b) 2008/09;
 - (c) 2009/10; and
 - (d) 2010/11?
- (2) What is the estimated expenditure of state research for the following years:
 - (a) 2011/12; and
 - (b) 2012/13?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

WA State Government funding of health and medical research (HMR) is largely provided through the Department of Health (DoH) and the Department of Commerce (DoC).

A summary of the Department of Health funding of HMR is presented in the attached document, which presents information on the projects, institutions and areas of research funded over the years requested. [See paper 4229.]

KWINANA ELECTORATE — SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE

6431. Mr R.H. Cook to the Minister for Education

Can the Minister please provide details of anticipated routine maintenance and any building planned in the years 2011–12, 2012–13, and 2013–2014 for the following schools:

- (a) Medina Primary School;
- (b) Calista Primary School;
- (c) Orelia Primary School;
- (d) North Parmelia Primary School;
- (e) Bertram Primary School;
- (f) Leda Primary School; and
- (g) Baldivis Primary School?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

Capital Works:

- (a) Medina Primary School — funding of \$925 000 allocated in 2011–12 for an administration upgrade
- (b) Calista Primary School — no works
- (c) Orelia Primary School — no works
- (d) North Parmelia Primary School — no works
- (e) Bertram Primary School — no works
- (f) Leda Primary School — no works
- (g) Baldivis Primary School — no works

Air-cooling will be provided to spaces in all of the above schools that are currently not air-cooled. It is anticipated that this will occur during year 3 of the program to be completed in 2013–14. The Department of Education is not yet able to estimate the cost of the air-cooling until the detailed audit is undertaken. This is expected to occur in late 2012 or early 2013.

The projected expenditure for routine maintenance* is anticipated as:

- (a) Medina Primary School
 - 2011/2012 — \$6 484
 - 2012/2013 — \$6 678
 - 2013/2014 — \$6 879
- (b) Calista Primary School
 - 2011/2012 — \$9 663
 - 2012/2013 — \$9 953
 - 2013/2014 — \$10 252
- (c) Orelia Primary School
 - 2011–12 — \$11 427
 - 2012–13 — \$11 770
 - 2013–14 — \$12 123
- (d) North Parmelia Primary School
 - 2011–12 — \$5 387
 - 2012–13 — \$5 549
 - 2013–14 — \$5 715
- (e) Bertram Primary School
 - 2011–12 — \$5 539
 - 2012–13 — \$5 705
 - 2013–14 — \$5 876
- (f) Leda Primary School
 - 2011–12 — \$5 044
 - 2012–13 — \$5 196
 - 2013–14 — \$5 351

- (g) Baldivis Primary School
 2011–12 — \$5 425
 2012–13 — \$5 588
 2013–14 — \$5 756

*Routine maintenance is a category of the Building Maintenance Program and includes all maintenance which is required by law, by regulation or has high consequence if not addressed. Types of works covered under this category include gutter cleaning, RCD testing, emergency lighting and fire equipment servicing and inspections, fire breaks, irrigation servicing and testing of portable electrical equipment.

KWINANA ELECTORATE — ROAD MAINTENANCE

6432. Mr R.H. Cook to the Minister for Transport

Can the Minister please provide details of any planned maintenance or upgrades for the years 2011–12, 2012–13, and 2013–14, of the following roads:

- (a) Thomas Road, Kwinana (West of Kwinana Freeway);
- (b) Anketell Road, Kwinana;
- (c) Rockingham Road, Kwinana;
- (d) Gilmore Avenue, Kwinana;
- (e) Stock Road, Kwinana;
- (f) Rowley Road, Kwinana;
- (g) Safety Bay Road, Rockingham;
- (h) Paterson Road, Kwinana and Rockingham;
- (i) Mandurah Road, Kwinana and Rockingham;
- (j) Wellard Road, Kwinana;
- (k) Ennis Avenue, Rockingham;
- (l) Rae Road, Rockingham;
- (m) Kwinana Beach Road, Kwinana;
- (n) Baldivis Road, Kwinana; and
- (o) Mundijong Road, Kwinana and Rockingham?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

- (a) Resurfacing/Routine Maintenance
- (b) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (c) Resurfacing/Routine Maintenance
- (d) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (e) There is no section of Stock Road within the Town of Kwinana.
- (f) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (g) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (h) Nil
- (i) Resurfacing/Routine Maintenance
- (j) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (k) Resurfacing/Routine Maintenance
- (l) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (m) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (n) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.
- (o) This roads is under the care and control of Local Governments.

ELECTIVE SURGERY — CANCELLATIONS

6436. Mr R.H. Cook to the Minister for Health

For each elective surgery category will the Minister;

- (a) outline the daily total of surgeries cancelled for the months of January 2011 to September 2011, and
- (b) outline in this breakdown the daily totals for each hospital in regards to the cancellation of elective surgeries for each category?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

[See paper 4230.]

KWINANA ELECTORATE — PUBLIC HOUSING

6438. Mr R.H. Cook to the Minister for Housing

- (1) What is the current number of Department of Housing properties within the Kwinana Electorate?
- (2) How many properties are currently tenanted?
- (3) How many properties are currently not tenanted?
- (4) What is the average period of time that those properties that have become untenanted remain untenanted?

Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:

The Department of Housing advises (as at 31 October 2011):

- (1) There are 670 Department of Housing properties within the Town of Kwinana, Local Government Area.
- (2) 666 properties are tenanted.
- (3) 4 properties are not tenanted.
- (4) Average of 15 days since vacation.

REGIONAL HOSPITALS — SPECIALIST VACANCIES

6443. Mr R.H. Cook to the Minister for Health

- (1) As at 30 September 2011 how many unfilled vacancies existed at each regional hospital for:
 - (a) speech pathologists;
 - (b) occupational therapists; and
 - (c) speech therapists?
- (2) How long has each vacancy existed?
- (3) What action is being taken to fill these positions?
- (4) As at 30 September 2011 what was the average waiting time at a regional hospital to see a:
 - (a) speech pathologist;
 - (b) occupational therapist; and
 - (c) speech therapist?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

- (1)–(4) As at the 30 September 2011 there were no vacancies in either Speech Pathology/Therapy or Occupational Therapy in the regional hospitals located in Broome, Port Hedland, Geraldton, Bunbury, Kalgoorlie and Albany. With the exception of Bunbury where there is a separate hospital based allied health team, the allied health services provide services in the inpatient, outpatient and community settings. Hospital services are generally given the highest priority with patients seen usually within one working day of receiving the referral.

SOUTH HEDLAND AND PUNDULMURRA TAFE CAMPUSES — MOULD OUTBREAK

6457. Mr T.G. Stephens to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Training and Workforce Development

I refer to the mould outbreak in buildings at South Hedland and Pundulmurra TAFE campuses and ask:

- (a) how many staff members have reported problems of the following type since the outbreak first occurred in March: headaches, sore eyes, breathing problems and or rashes;
- (b) how many children at the child-care centre have reported similar symptoms;
- (c) how many TAFE students have reported similar symptoms;
- (d) have staff members been advised that any symptoms they are suffering could just as easily have resulted from exposure at home or at the supermarket;
- (e) are staff being warned not to take any further complaints to the media;
- (f) are budget constraints preventing testing from being carried out in all areas at the TAFE campuses;
- (g) are staff compelled to work in areas which still show visible signs of mould; and
- (h) how many staff members have resigned from the campuses as a result of this issue?

Mr M.J. COWPER replied:

- (a) Pilbara Institute has received reports from 13 staff members in relation to the described symptoms since March 2011.
- (b) Pilbara Institute has not received any reports of symptoms from the Child Care Centre in relation to mould.
- (c) Pilbara Institute has not received any official reports from students of symptoms. However, a class of nursing students has verbally advised of symptoms that they believe may be related to mould.
- (d) Staff have been advised that mould is an issue across the Pilbara as evidenced from a report in the Northwest Telegraph on 20 July 2011 titled 'Toxic mould a growing issue'. It is an issue that is not isolated to Pilbara Institute.
- (e) Staff have been advised to follow the communication protocols as outlined in the Pilbara Institute Code of Conduct.
- (f) No, budget constraints have not prevented testing being carried out in all areas of campuses. Further testing on areas not previously remediated took place on the weekend of 12 and 13 November 2011.
- (g) At all times Pilbara Institute is following advice from the Health Department, WorkSafe and Riskcover. The Institute is very mindful of staff health issues and staff are moved and action taken when evidence of unacceptable levels of mould are found.
- (h) One

COMMONWEALTH FESTIVAL — COST

6487. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Culture and the Arts

In relation to advertising costs for the Commonwealth Festival funded by the Western Australian taxpayers I ask,

- (a) what was the cost of advertising placed on Facebook;
- (b) what was the cost of advertising placed on any other social media and please list which social media were used;
- (c) what was the total cost of website construction and maintenance;
- (d) what was the total cost of advertising and marketing for the Festival, who received it, and what percentage of the total budget does it represent; and
- (e) can the Premier please list all recipients of \$10,000 or more from the Commonwealth Festival budget?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a)–(e) The Perth International Arts Festival (PIAF) was contracted to present the eight day Commonwealth Festival staged in conjunction with the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting last month.

PIAF received \$1.45 million from Lotterywest and \$1 million specially allocated for the event by the State Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts (DCA).

The contract allows a reasonable period of time for a full acquittal which will be presented in a final report from PIAF due to DCA on 31 December 2011.

STATE RECORDS OFFICE — “EATING THE ARCHIVES” EVENT

6490. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister for Culture and the Arts

In relation to the Eating The Archives event hosted by State Records Office I ask:

- (a) what was the total cost of marketing for the event;
- (b) what was the total cost of the event;
- (c) which State electorates did the guests chosen and invited come from; and
- (d) what is the total arts budget allocation to the State Records Office each year since 2007–08?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a) \$7,391.05 (ex GST)
- (b) The total cost of the program (on-line exhibition, marketing and staging) was \$37,075.07 (ex GST).
- (c) Members of the public who participated in the event were chosen through a lottery. The online lottery was conducted under the guidelines set out under Section 104 of the Gaming and Wagering Commission Act 1987.

The random lottery winners were residents within the Legislative Assembly Electorates of Alfred Cove, Cottesloe, Forrestfield, Girrawheen, Hillarys, Jandakot, Mandurah, Mindarie, Morley, Nedlands and Perth.

A further two members of the public won tickets to the event through ABC Radio 720AM, which also ran a competition. These winners were from the electorate of Riverton.

The invited guests chosen to be part of the event were selected for their profile in their respective fields in the Western Australian community and their willingness to donate their time and promote the State Records Office through social media and other means. Invited guests were not asked which electorate they were resident in.

- (d) Since 2007–08 the State Records Office total annual arts budget effective allocation by agency has been:

2007–08 — \$1,810,000
 2008–09 — \$1,960,000
 2009–10 — \$1,924,000
 2010–11 — \$1,972,000
 2011–12 — \$2,479,000

EUROPEAN WASPS — BIOSECURITY CONTROL MEASURES

6492. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Agriculture and Food

In relation to the establishment of a group to coordinate biosecurity measures against European wasps made at a recent forum organised by the Department of Agriculture and Food, I ask

- (a) who are the participants in the group representing the:
 - (i) Federal government;
 - (ii) Western Australian government;
 - (iii) local government;
 - (iv) industry; and
 - (v) Community;
- (b) who will be the person responsible for directing the group;
- (c) why did the Department of Agriculture and Food abandon their proposal to pass responsibility of Wasp surveillance and nest destruction onto local government councils;
- (d) what will be the cost of the new 'group' biosecurity program to control the European wasp from establishment in Western Australia;
- (e) what has been the yearly expenditure on the European wasp program for the past four years;
- (f) how will the participants' roles be defined in undertaking the program;
- (g) what strategies are in place for surveillance and who in the group will undertake this role; and
- (h) what strategy will be used to measure the new group's success in keeping the European wasp out of Western Australia?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

- (a) The establishment of working group is currently in progress. As nominations from different groups are still being received, information on participants representing different groups cannot be provided at this stage.

- (b) Officers of the Department of Agriculture and Food will coordinate the working group activities under the overall direction of Director Plant Biosecurity, Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia.
- (c) The Department of Agriculture and Food did not propose to pass nest destruction and surveillance activities onto local government.
- (d) The Department of Agriculture and Food has allocated \$130 000 for the European wasp program for the 2011–2012 season. The working group is expected to develop better options for the ongoing management of the European wasp risk.
- (e) The average yearly expenditure for the European wasp program has been around \$75 000 for the last four years.
- (f) Roles will be defined by the “Terms of Reference” which will be finalised at the first working group meeting in December 2011.
- (g) European wasp surveillance traps are currently being installed by the Department of Agriculture and Food in the Perth metropolitan area for the coming season. At least 200 European wasp surveillance traps will be established in metropolitan Perth this year and more in risk country areas. The working group will further determine surveillance strategy.
- (h) The standard indicator of eradication success is the continued absence of the pest. This will be verified by the trapping and surveillance program as in previous years.

CORRECTIVE SERVICES LEGISLATION — DRAFT STATUS

6521. Ms M.M. Quirk to the Minister for Corrective Services

What is the current status of new draft corrective services legislation?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

The Corrective Services Bill is currently under development and following consultation with relevant stakeholders, it is intended that it will be introduced to Parliament in the autumn session next year.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES —
ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS FUND MANAGEMENT

6550. Mr M. McGowan to the Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts; Science and Innovation

I refer to the employment or engagement of officers associated with the monitoring, development or administration of Royalties for Regions funds within agencies within the Minister’s portfolio of responsibilities, and I ask:

- (a) since 23 September 2008 has any agency within the Minister’s portfolio of responsibilities employed an officer with responsibilities in relation to the Government’s Royalties for Regions programme;
- (b) if yes to (a), what is the name of the agency;
- (c) if yes to (a), how many officers;
- (d) if yes to (a), what is the title of each of the officers; and
- (e) if yes to (a), what is the level and salary of each of the officers?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

Department of Planning

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Department of Planning.
- (c) As of 14 November, eight (8) officers are employed from a total of thirteen (13) temporary positions.
- (d) Strategic Planning Officer (1)
Urban Designer (1)
Project Manager (1)
Senior Planning Officers (10)
- (e) With respect to the eight (8) officers who are currently temporarily employed:
Strategic Planning Officer SCL 5, \$117,948
Urban Designer SCL5, \$117,948
Project Manager SCL5, \$117,948
Senior Planning Officer SCL3, \$91,022

Senior Planning Officer SCL3, \$91,022
 Senior Planning Officer SCL3, \$94,134
 Senior Planning Officer SCL3, \$91,022
 Senior Planning Officer SCL3, \$91,022

Department for Culture and the Arts

- (a) No.
- (b)–(e) Not applicable.

Armadale Redevelopment Authority

- (a) No.
- (b)–(e) Not applicable.

East Perth Redevelopment Authority/Subiaco Redevelopment Authority

- (a)–(e) This parliamentary question is not applicable. The East Perth Redevelopment Authority and Subiaco Redevelopment Authority are not associated with any funding from Royalties for Regions.

Midland Redevelopment Authority

- (a) No.
- (b)–(e) Not applicable.

LandCorp

- (a)–(e) LandCorp to provide response to the Minister for Regional Development; Lands, if required, as the Minister to whom LandCorp reports on these matters.

Department of Commerce — Science and Innovation Division

- (a) No.
- (b)–(e) Not applicable.

ChemCentre

- (a) No.
- (b)–(e) Not applicable.

CULLACABARDEE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY — STATUS

6563. Ms R. Saffioti to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

With regard to the Cullacabardee Aboriginal Community, I ask:

- (a) can the Minister explain what the current status of the community is;
- (b) what role does the Department of Indigenous Affairs have in respect to the community;
- (c) are there plans to demolish any housing in the community; and
- (d) what is the future of the community?

Mr M.J. COWPER replied:

- (a) Cullacabardee is self-managed by Cullacabardee Aboriginal Corporation which is an entity incorporated under the Commonwealth's Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006. The community is located on Reserve 37145 with the Management Order to the Aboriginal Lands Trust (ALT).
- (b) The Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) provides administrative and operational support for the ALT and occasionally attends the community to assist with resolution of property and infrastructure issues.
- (c) Houses considered beyond repair and that are a serious safety concern to residents have been demolished in the past. DIA has been advised by the community Chairperson that two dwellings were recently vacated and DIA is engaging a building inspector to assess whether the dwellings are safe for human occupation. They may be demolished if it is necessary.
- (d) Cullacabardee reserve is on environmentally sensitive land which is not deemed suitable for long term community housing. DIA will continue to engage with the local Noongar community for plans for the future use and remediation of the reserve.

POPULATION FORECASTS — NORTH-EASTERN CORRIDOR

6589. Ms R. Saffioti to the Minister for Planning

I refer to the population forecasts of the north eastern corridor and ask:

- (a) what is the estimated population of Ellenbrook, Aveley and The Vines in 2031;
- (b) what is the estimated population of Bullsbrook in 2031;
- (c) what is the estimated population of Dayton, Brabham, Bennett Springs and Henley Brook in 2031; and
- (d) what is the estimated population of the Swan Valley area in 2031?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (a)–(d) Population forecasts are only published at the level of local government — smaller suburb forecasts are not available.

The subject suburbs are contained within the City of Swan (the City), for which the Australian Bureau of Statistics report a 2010 Estimated Resident Population of 112,960 (ABS Cat 3218.0, March 2011).

The Western Australian Planning Commission's (WAPC) population projections published in Western Australia Tomorrow (November 2005) forecast 169,900 persons for the City by 2031. Population forecasts are subject to adjustment as new information is gathered.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES — ASSAULT REPORTS BY STAFF

6645. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts; Science and Innovation

For each department and agency within the Minister's portfolios, I ask:

- (a) how many incidents of assault have been reported by staff in:
 - (i) 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011;
- (b) can the Minister please list the relevant department or agency, date of assault, male/female victim, male/female perpetrator;
- (c) how many incidents of assault were reported to Western Australia Police; and
- (d) how many convictions resulted from reported assaults?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

Department of Planning

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

Department for Culture and the Arts

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

Armadale Redevelopment Authority

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

East Perth Redevelopment Authority/Subiaco Redevelopment Authority

- (a) (d) Nil. There have been no incidents of assault reported by staff from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011.

Midland Redevelopment Authority

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

LandCorp

- (a)–(d) Not applicable. LandCorp has provided a response to the Minister for Regional Development; Lands as the Minister to whom LandCorp reports on these matters.

Refer response to Parliamentary Question 6639 submitted by the Minister for Regional Development; Lands.

Department of Commerce — Science and Innovation Division

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

ChemCentre

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(d) Not applicable

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES — VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCIES

6662. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts; Science and Innovation

For each department and agency within the Minister's portfolios, since 23 March 2011, can the Minister please outline:

- (a) what are the names, titles and levels of senior executives who have taken voluntary redundancies;
- (b) have these positions been re-filled, either in an acting or substantive way; and
 - (i) if so, which ones;
- (c) for each of the voluntary redundancies:
 - (i) what was the total cost of these voluntary redundancies;
 - (ii) what were the conditions of payment for the senior executives to receive the voluntary redundancies; and
 - (iii) will the Minister table a copy of the conditions; and
 - (A) if not, why not?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

Department of Planning

- (a) Director, Special Projects (Temporary Position until December 2011)
Level 9 Year 3
- (b) The effective date of separation is 30 December 2011 and the temporary position will be abolished. Her current substantive Level 8 position is on the attached list.
 - (i) Not applicable.
- (c) (i) \$183, 798.88 gross.
(ii) No specific conditions — approved under the 2011 Public Sector Voluntary Redundancy Scheme.
(iii) Not applicable.

Department for Culture and the Arts

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(c) Not applicable.

Armadale Redevelopment Authority

- (a) Nil.
- (b)–(c) Not applicable.

East Perth Redevelopment Authority/Subiaco Redevelopment Authority

- (a) Nil. No senior executives have taken voluntary redundancies since 23 March 2011.
- (b)–(c) Not applicable.

Midland Redevelopment Authority

- (a)–(c) Nil voluntary redundancies for the Midland Redevelopment Authority.

LandCorp

- (a)–(c) Not applicable. LandCorp has provided a response to the Minister for Regional Development; Lands as the Minister to whom LandCorp reports on these matters.
Refer response to Parliamentary Question 6656 submitted by the Minister for Regional Development; Lands.

Department of Commerce — Science and Innovation Division

(a) Nil.

(b)–(c) Not applicable.

ChemCentre

(a) Nil.

(b)–(c) Not applicable.
