

NEDLANDS FORESHORE — CHIPCO SPEARHEAD HERBICIDE

**1194. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Environment:**

- (1) Can the minister confirm that the Nedlands foreshore is regularly sprayed with a herbicide called Chipco Spearhead by a contractor employed by the City of Nedlands?
- (2) Is the minister aware that the manufacturer of Chipco Spearhead, Bayer Crop Science, warns on its website that this is a dangerous substance, using the following terms —

**PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND ENVIRONMENT.**  
Dangerous to fish and other aquatic life. DO NOT contaminate streams, rivers or waterways with the chemical or used containers.

- (3) Why is the Swan River foreshore being sprayed with a substance whose makers warn that it should not be used in a marine environment?

**Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) I am advised by the Swan River Trust that the City of Nedlands uses Chipco Spearhead on its recreation reserves to control broadleaf weeds. The herbicide has been applied once annually over the last four years, between July and October. Contractors are engaged to undertake this work and are supervised by City of Nedlands personnel.
- (2) I am advised that the herbicide label does carry this warning.
- (3) The herbicide is not used in the marine environment, but is used adjacent to the Swan River in some locations. I am advised by the Swan River Trust, having consulted with the City of Nedlands, that if the herbicide is applied according to label instructions and best practice procedures, there is no contamination of adjacent waterways. The Swan River Trust advises that the City of Nedlands confirms it is using the herbicide according to best practice, and, given this, there will be no risk of contamination resulting from this operation.