

KINGS SQUARE — REDEVELOPMENT

380. Mrs L.M. O'MALLEY to the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the long-delayed Kings Square development that the member for Fremantle tirelessly fought for, which will finally be delivered by this government.

- (1) How many jobs will this create?
- (2) What impact will this have on the local economy in Fremantle and neighbouring suburbs?

Mr P.C. TINLEY replied:

(1)–(2) I thank the member for the question.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of opposition business, I call you to order.

Mr S.K. L'Estrange interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of opposition business, I call you for the second time.

Mr P.C. TINLEY: Anymore? No.

I thank the member for the question. It was with great pleasure that I, along with the hardworking state member for Fremantle, Simone McGurk, MLA, and the federal member for Fremantle, Mr Josh Wilson, along with the Treasurer; Minister for Finance attended to the commencement of works at Kings Square. The Kings Square redevelopment is, by any measure, for the City of Fremantle, long overdue and a significant game changer for the city.

Mr C.J. Barnett: When did you sign the agreement?

Mr P.C. TINLEY: I beg your pardon.

Mr C.J. Barnett: When did you sign the agreement?

The SPEAKER: It is not a chat-fest, member for Cottesloe.

Mr P.C. TINLEY: We —

The SPEAKER: No, no. I call you to order for the first time, member for Cottesloe. Speak through the Chair.

Mr P.C. TINLEY: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I note that the member for Cottesloe was quick to interject in wanting to claim this project as his own. How long did he just oscillate, vacillate, then prevaricate and discombobulate his own words? How long before he held the City of Fremantle to ransom for its support for its community to stop the reckless Roe 8 program? This is what the member for Cottesloe, the former Premier, would use, and these are the depths that the previous government would stoop to to hold the City of Fremantle hostage. In relation to the City of Fremantle's support for discontinuing Roe 8, he said —

I do not think that is a very good politics on its part.

It is not good politics. He also stated —

... we will withdraw from any proposal to put state housing into Fremantle. We will withdraw right now!
Is that what the member wants—no ... housing in Fremantle?

That is the sort of petulance we got from the former Premier of the former government with the hold-up of a \$270 million investment into one of the oldest towns in this state.

Getting back to the member's question on the sort of employment that we will see from this project, it is \$358 million worth of local economic activity and could generate 2 100 jobs over the two or three years it will take to bring this to book. Fifty million dollars of ratepayers' money has gone into it. The state government has held faith with the City of Fremantle and committed to move 1 500 FTE from what was then the Department of Housing and is now the Department of Communities. It would not have happened if the member for Fremantle in opposition had not been a relentless and tireless supporter of bringing to book this project and showing exactly what a proper member does.