

BUSH FOREVER - MIRRABOOKA-YOKINE AREA

278. Mr R.C. KUCERA to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

Can the minister please explain what actions the government is taking in relation to Bush Forever in the Mirrabooka-Yokine area?

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member Yokine for the question, and for all the hard work he has put into helping us advance a resolution on this site. It is with great pleasure that I advise the house that, last night, I signed off on a \$16.7 million purchase of 77 hectares of bushland from the Department of Housing and Works. The area is situated along Reid Highway, between Mirrabooka Avenue and Northwood Drive, and it has been identified by the state government as a Bush Forever site.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! I call to order the member for Dawesville and the member for Roe.

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: I am glad the former member for Yokine recognises how ineffective he was as a local member to try to get this done under the previous government. Of course, the current member for Yokine is an extremely effective member, and he has the support of a government that is committed to Bush Forever.

Dr K.D. Hames interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! I call to order the member for Dawesville for the third time.

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: This will provide for the community of Mirrabooka and Yokine a great degree of security in respect of this land. The member for Yokine and his community have been working very hard to ensure that the regional significance of this site is protected. They have been developing many interesting plans and strategies, including involving their local school, John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School, which wants to be involved in the management and care of this site. Congratulations to the member for Yokine for all his hard work in getting this matter onto the agenda.