

LOTTO AGENCIES, RELOCATION POLICY

32. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

- (1) What base retail turnover figure is used by Lotterywest in assessing whether a lotto licence is allocated?
- (2) When new shopping facilities are opened in a country town, does Lotterywest have a policy of actively encouraging existing lotto agents to relocate to the new facilities, even if it means reduced viability for that business?
- (3) Why has pressure been applied to the existing lotto agency in Dunsborough to relocate to the new shopping centre?

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The current level of sales from all lottery products that Lotterywest uses for a new Lotterywest licence is \$16 900 per week.
- (2) No.
- (3) The principle on which Lotterywest makes decisions with regard to lottery licensing policy, including relocations, is based on maximising returns to the community of Western Australia, the prime responsibility of Lotterywest. Each location where new shopping facilities are opened, whether in the country or the metropolitan area, is taken on the merits of the particular circumstances pertaining to that location. In the case of Dunsborough, the shopping centre development combined with the overall developments in the town and area surrounding the new shopping centre development means that the Lotterywest outlet is no longer located in the optimum location. I am advised that the Lotterywest retailer in Dunsborough has agreed with Lotterywest's assessment that transferring the lottery licence to the new centre will result in improved sales. The option of relocating his licence has been offered to the retailer. Lotterywest is awaiting the retailer's communication on his business decision in this regard.