

SHARKS — HAZARD MITIGATION

935. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the answer provided to my question yesterday about the two automated shark warning towers that the minister advised were installed by the Town of Cottesloe on 1 November.

- (1) Were either of these towers manually activated prior to the suspected fatal attack on Saturday, 6 November?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Were these towers manually activated after reports of the attack emerged; and, if so, at what time?
- (4) Why were these towers not programmed by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to operate automatically after they were installed on 1 November?
- (5) Will DPIRD bring forward its plan to automate the towers as a matter of priority, and before the end of this calendar month?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Fisheries.

- (1)–(3) The shark alarm towers at Cottesloe and North Cottesloe Beaches are managed and operated by the Town of Cottesloe.
- (4) The shark alarm towers at Cottesloe and North Cottesloe were installed by the Town of Cottesloe. The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development is currently working to automate these two towers from the adjacent shark monitoring receivers at Cottesloe and North Cottesloe.
- (5) DPIRD is working to automate the shark alarm towers as a matter of priority.