

DEPARTMENT OF WATER — CHANGE OF FOCUS

680. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Environment:

I refer the minister to question without notice 646, which she answered on 14 September 2010. What specific references were made to the Swan River Trust in the Department of Water's decision to withdraw its environmental services?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

I have been advised by the Minister for Water that the Department of Water is not withdrawing its environmental services, but it is recognised that in addition to the Department of Water, other agencies, such as the Swan River Trust, also have responsibility for protecting and enhancing our waterways. It should be noted that the existing memorandum of understanding between the Department of Water and the Swan River Trust, which outlines, amongst other things, that each agency has responsibilities relating to the protection and management of the Swan and Canning rivers, is currently being extended.