

**TORNADO — CANNING VALE**

*Statement by Member for Southern River*

**MR P. ABETZ (Southern River)** [12.57 pm]: A mini tornado hit Canning Vale last Friday, 20 May, around 8.00 am or 8.30 am. Some 18 homes around the area of Bengalla Boulevard and Barraberry Retreat, Canning Vale were damaged; six were damaged seriously. I was alerted to this around 10.00 am and immediately made my way to the area. I found houses with tiles ripped off, and one house where the brick pier carport was lifted, snapping the brick pillars, which were not connected by steel bars to the concrete foundations, resulting in extensive damage as the carport collapsed. One of the worst affected houses was that of John and Lorraine Davis in Barraberry Retreat. Thankfully I had my waterproofs in the car and I was able to help John put a few tiles back on the roof to reduce the amount of water running into the house. Many steel patios were ripped out of the ground, and some parts ended up lodged in the high tension lines, requiring Western Power to come out.

I want to commend the City of Gosnells for sending crews immediately. People were out there immediately, cleaning up the rubbish and twisted metal. State Emergency Service volunteers also came out—I understand 36 volunteers in six teams contributed 300 hours to assist residents within the City of Gosnells. I wish to commend Gosnells SES local manager Paul Hollamby for his work in coordinating the SES effort, and the employers of SES volunteers, who allow them to leave work at short notice to serve the community in this way. I take the opportunity to echo the words of Paul Hollamby and remind all homeowners that it is time to prepare their homes for the storm season.

*Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm*