

LOGUE BROOK DAM — USE AS RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND POTABLE WATER SUPPLY

**56. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Water Resources:**

- (1) If the state government “supports and contributes to the healthy lifestyle of Western Australians by increasing physical activity in the community through sport and recreation”, how can the minister justify closing Logue Brook Dam for recreational purposes before the completion of the south-west recreational master plan and the provision of alternative recreational facilities in the region?
- (2) What is the anticipated time frame for completion of the south west recreational master plan?
- (3) It was reported in *The West Australian* of 19 January 2008 that Logue Brook Dam is being used to help fill a gap in drinking water supplies before the state’s second desalination plant comes on stream. Does this mean, therefore, that once the desalination plant is functional, Logue Brook Dam will be returned to recreational use; and, if not, why not?

**Hon KIM CHANCE replied:**

I thank Hon Nigel Hallett for providing some notice of the question. I am advised as follows —

- (1) The competition for use of our precious water resource is acute. The primary issue that drove the decision to close Logue Brook Dam was the requirement for drinking water for the integrated water supply scheme to address the growth in demand. However, the government has recognised the importance of recreation for the community and the role that Logue Brook Dam played in that regard. Consequently, significant funding for the development of alternative recreational opportunities in the region has been provided to the Department of Sport and Recreation. The government’s endeavour is to identify some immediate recreational opportunities for the local community.
- (2) It is anticipated that the south-west recreational master plan will be completed by mid-2009. That time frame recognises the requirement to engage meaningfully with the community and key stakeholders.
- (2) No. Logue Brook Dam will not be returned to recreational use, as it will form part of the integrated water supply scheme.