

PERTH STADIUM — OPERATOR SHORT LIST

**379. Mrs G.J. GODFREY to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:**

I understand the short list for the new Perth Stadium operator was released yesterday. Can the minister please update the house on this significant project?

**Mr D.A. Templeman** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Mandurah, we hate to disturb you!

**Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:**

I thank the member for the question. The member and everyone in this house would be very well aware that we are making a significant investment in the new Perth Stadium and we have made a significant investment in sporting infrastructure across the state. The Premier, the previous Minister for Sport and Recreation, the local member, and I recently opened the WA Institute of Sport and the WA Netball Centre. Both organisations responsible have moved in and are utilising those facilities, and we are getting great feedback on that investment. I want to provide the house with an update on the request for proposals—the expression-of-interest process—for the operator of the stadium. Work is well underway as we go through this process for the operator. Last week I was at the new Perth Stadium site. The first concrete pour for the first slabs has been done. Lots of local jobs are going into this. Our tenders are going to local businesses, and I am sure the member sitting to my right would be very appreciative of that. As this progresses, on time and on budget, the state government —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Ms M.J. DAVIES:** Members opposite are obviously not supportive of the investment in this fantastic —

**Ms R. Saffioti** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for West Swan, I call you to order for the first time.

**Ms M.J. DAVIES:** Get up and ask a question instead of yelling out across the thing.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I cannot hear the minister. I am sure Hansard is battling to hear the minister. Can you speak loudly through the Chair please, minister.

**Ms M.J. DAVIES:** Yes, Mr Speaker. I was updating the house on the fact that we have progressed along for the operator. The state government has endorsed the appointment of the venue operator using an open tender process and the contract is expected to be awarded in early 2016. As well as day-to-day management, the successful operator will work with government agencies and other stakeholders to make sure that we have full use of this fantastic facility going forward.

Yesterday we released the short list of companies that will progress to that next stage of the EOI process—the operator procurement process. AEG Ogden, Nationwide Venue Management, Perth Stadium Management and Stadium Australia Operations were successful in moving forward to the next stage. The short-listed respondents will be provided with a request-for-proposal document and the process should be completed by late 2015. Then we can get on with planning for events to make sure that this fantastic venue is full and fully utilised going forward.

Once complete, the stadium will be the heart and soul of the WA sporting community. We are going to have a fantastic precinct there. It is going to provide employment in an ongoing way, as well as the jobs that we are creating for this state right now as we go through the construction period.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Cannington, I call you to order for the first time. Member for South Perth, I call you to order for the first time. Minister, wind it up, please.

**Ms M.J. DAVIES:** With more than 100 tenders to be awarded as part of this process, members can expect to see a significant injection into our local economy. We are striving to make sure that local businesses are coming through this process. There is a commitment from everyone involved to make sure that we have jobs at this time when we do have some changes in our state economy.