

WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS

1660. Mr D.J. Kelly to the Minister for Water:

I refer to Western Australia's waste water treatment plants and ask:

- (a) how many waste water treatment plants are in Western Australia;
- (b) where is each plant located;
- (c) what is the value of each plant;
- (d) who owns each plant;
- (e) who operates each plant;
- (f) how much water does each plant treat per year;
- (g) how many staff are employed at each plant;
- (h) what geographical areas are served by each plant;
- (i) how many customers does each plant serve;
- (j) how old is each plant;
- (k) what is the projected life-span of each plant;
- (l) what are the annual running costs for each plant;
- (m) what is the income generated by each plant from water rates or other fees;
- (n) is the operation of any plant subsidised by the State Government, and if so, which plants are subsidised, and by how much; and
- (o) what is the value of the service provided by each plant to its customers?

Ms M.J. Davies replied:

- (a) There are 106 wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) managed by the Water Corporation. In addition, there are a number of small wastewater plants owned by other groups.
- (b)–(g) [See paper 1391.]
- (h) For regional WWTPs, the geographical areas served for each plant is as per the name of the WWTP. For the metropolitan WWTPs, the attached map [See paper 1391] depicts the geographical areas served.
- (i)–(l) [See paper 1391.]
- (m)–(o) Wastewater treatment plants in all cases form part of a Scheme. A Scheme incorporates wastewater treatment plants, reticulation, pumping stations and discharge options. Costs and charges are calculated at a Scheme level.

The wastewater treatment plants in isolation do not generate revenue from the wastewater rates and fees, the Scheme does, and the operating subsidies and other requested information equally relates to the total Scheme rather than any part of it.

From the 106 WWTPs listed, 96 WWTPs are part of Schemes that are subsidised by the State Government. The remaining Schemes are not subject to an operating subsidy.