

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

THE PRESIDENT (Hon Barry House): The office of Chairman of Committees is vacant; I call for nominations for the office of Chairman of Committees.

HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the Opposition) [12 noon]: Mr President, I nominate Hon Matt Benson-Lidholm for the office of Chairman of Committees.

The PRESIDENT: Is there a seconder?

HON NORMAN MOORE (Mining and Pastoral — Leader of the House) [12 noon]: Mr President, I second the nomination.

HON MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM (South West) [12.01 pm]: I am honoured to submit myself to the will of the house.

The PRESIDENT: Are there any further nominations? If there are no further nominations, I declare Hon Matt Benson-Lidholm duly elected.

[Applause.]

The PRESIDENT: I give the call to Hon Matt Benson-Lidholm, if he wishes to make a few remarks.

HON MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM (South West) [12.01 pm]: With the indulgence of the house, I firstly thank members for their support. Secondly, I would like to pay tribute to my immediate predecessor, Hon George Cash, and thank him for his wise counsel. During the past four years I have learnt much from his professionalism, equanimity and fairness, and I hope I can discharge my duties in a similar style.

I also congratulate you, Mr President, on your appointment. You have been an outstanding member of Parliament, and, given your previous experience as Chairman of Committees and Deputy President, I know that you will continue the excellent tradition of Presidents of the Legislative Council in Western Australia. I also indicate to members that I will carry out my duties without fear or favour.