

PERRY LAKES REDEVELOPMENT, SPORTING GROUPS' RESPONSE

**555. Mr J.N. HYDE to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:**

Given the government's decision to redevelop the Perry Lakes site, will the minister inform the house of the response from sporting groups following the decision?

**Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:**

The three bodies that are affected in particular are AthleticA, RugbyWA and the Western Australian Basketball Federation. They are absolutely delighted that the government has eventually had to act on this issue. As I said during the debate yesterday, this matter has gone on since 1996 when the first approaches were made and since 1999 when Hon Norman Moore supported a joint development with the Town of Cambridge. Those bodies are overwhelmingly in support. My office has been inundated with calls from people from all over the state, not just from within the city. As the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure pointed out to the member for Avon yesterday, these facilities will benefit every person in this state, not just the people from the Town of Cambridge, athletics and rugby, but everybody, and in particular those young people who aspire to set their sights on events like the Beijing Olympics and to be, like the member for Albany, a revered Olympian and respected person in the community. This is a win-win situation for everybody. People are grateful that the government has worked so hard to come up with a solution that will work for everybody. The Western Australian Sports Federation, which is the peak body in this state for all sporting associations, is totally supportive of the government's approach. It is very keen that we reach a conclusion. It has been a very frustrating process. The past two days have seen even more frustration on the part of sporting bodies as a result of some of the spurious arguments put up by members on the other side of the house.

**Mr P.D. Omodei:** Like the spurious comment that you have a \$1.2 billion surplus.

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr P.D. Omodei:** And you should have built it four years ago.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I call the member for Warren-Blackwood to order for the second time.

**Mr R.C. KUCERA:** If the Liberal Party in this state wants to continue to be the blocker of the future aspirations of the state's young people, it will be on its head.