

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

**1067. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Environment:**

I refer the minister to the household hazardous waste program, which, in accordance with an agreement with the state government, is delivered by the Western Australian Local Government Association.

- (1) Is it true that, due to lack of funding from the Waste Authority, WALGA has been forced to cancel all collection days for household hazardous waste from 1 January 2010?
- (2) Have any household hazardous waste collection days been cancelled already?
- (3) If yes to either (1) or (2), what plans have been put in place to ensure that a program to collect this hazardous waste from Perth households is maintained?

**Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:**

I thank the member for her question.

- (1)-(3) Yes, the member is correct; there is a household hazardous waste program—there is an agreement between WALGA and the WA Waste Authority—which has been a hugely successful program. As I understand, it is fair to say that it was perhaps not anticipated that the costs would be as much as they have been. However, in August 2009, I approved an additional allocation of funds—about \$1.2 million, I think—for infrastructure. There was also an additional \$300 000, I think, which was a one-off allocation for the operational aspects of the program. Subsequent to that, WALGA contacted us and indicated that it had requested that \$1 million on the infrastructure side of the agreement go to the operational aspects. I supported that and the WA Waste Authority supported that. I understand that today some discussions were being held with the WA Waste Authority, as well as WALGA. Unfortunately, I have not had the chance to speak to the chairman of the Waste Authority, but it is my very clear expectation that the household hazardous waste program will continue.