

PORT BEACH

Statement by Member for Bicton

MRS L.M. O'MALLEY (Bicton) [12.55 pm]: Port Beach in North Fremantle is the closest beach to the electorate of Bicton. Enjoyed and loved by generations of people living in Attadale, Bicton, East Fremantle, Melville and Palmyra, Port Beach is highly valued by the constituents of Bicton and beyond. Known for its safe and sheltered swimming in the summer months, Port Beach is hugely popular with families and swimmers of all ages. This beach is particularly special to me as it is where my husband and I were married almost 25 years ago. However, this beautiful, natural asset is under threat from coastal erosion, which became critically evident following a severe storm last winter. That is why I have joined my community in the “Save Port Beach” campaign by calling for action to protect and maintain Port Beach as a recreational beach for current and future generations. Thanks to the enormous efforts of Coast Port Beach cafe owner, Ian Hutchinson; Port Beach Polar Bears chair, Suzette Felton; Port Beach Beached Whales chair, Alex Bajada; Fremantle Surf Life Saving Club president, Jack Dowie; and their members and supporters, the McGowan Labor government committed \$200 000 in a 50 per cent partnership with the City of Fremantle to fund a rock wall to be built ahead of this winter’s storms. I am proud to have played my part in achieving this important milestone and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of the work being done in this community campaign to bring state, local and federal government together to save Port Beach.