

MURESK INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE CAMPUS

866. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the minister representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Why has yet another report been commissioned by the minister for the Curtin University Muresk Institute of Agriculture campus given that reports by former Deputy Premier Hendy Cowan for the Minister for Education and Hon Philip Gardiner for the Minister for Regional Development have already been undertaken?
- (2) Given that Curtin University will have completely withdrawn from the Muresk campus by 2012, why is there continual decision-making paralysis on the future of the Muresk campus?
- (3) Has the \$10 million promised by the Premier for training courses been spent; and, if yes, where was it spent?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) No further report has been commissioned.
- (2) The Department of Training and Workforce Development is currently developing a business case to support the future development of the Muresk training and education precinct. This business case aims to increase the availability of vocational education and training at Muresk, develop a sustainable business model for Muresk that suits its long-term viability, and increase access to higher education in regional areas. It is proposed that Muresk will be established as a separate institution under the Vocational Education and Training Act 1996 in January 2012. Curtin University has confirmed that it will have a presence at Muresk in 2012.
- (3) No.
- (4) Decisions regarding how the money will be spent require further consideration by cabinet. But what I will say to the member is that good things are happening at Muresk and he will not have to wait too much longer.