

PERTH STADIUM — VENUESLIVE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

450. Ms R. SAFFIOTI to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

I refer to the announcement of VenuesLive Management Services as the operator of the Perth Stadium.

- (1) Will the minister rule out any further subsidies for the operation of the stadium than are currently outlined in the budget?
- (2) By what date will the minister have determined user agreements with football?
- (3) What contribution will be made by taxpayers for event content at the stadium compared with the contribution made by the stadium operators?

Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:

I thank the member for the question.

(1)–(3) Sorry; I wrote the second question down but I did not get the first one.

Ms R. Saffioti: Will you rule out any further subsidies for the operation of the stadium than are currently outlined in the budget?

Ms M.J. DAVIES: As I just outlined to the house, we have signed the stadium operator agreement that allows the operator to now get on and start attracting content for the stadium when it opens in early 2018. The impacts of the state government's decisions are outlined in the state budget relating to the design, build, finance and maintain contract. I said that we would release the VenuesLive contract —

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Swan, I did not ask you to speak out.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: We will release the VenuesLive contract without the commercial-in-confidence terms because that would create a challenge. That is very similar to the Perth Arena agreement; we do not do that with any of the arrangements.

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: The member's second question was around what date we will finalise —

Point of Order

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The first question was: will the minister rule out any further subsidies for the operation of the stadium than are currently outlined in the budget? That is the question: will the minister rule it out—yes or no?

The SPEAKER: Member, that is not really a point of order, but I have been allowing these points of order. Just address these issues, please, minister.

Question without Notice Resumed

Ms M.J. DAVIES: Thank you. The second question that the member asked —

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: — was around the date that the stakeholder —

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Swan!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: The second question was around the date that the stakeholder agreements would be finalised. We are obviously very excited that this agreement has been finalised, so the operator can now commence negotiations and finalise agreements with cricket and football. I would like to think that that would be done in the very near future, but I do not have a date that I can tell —

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Swan, I call you to order for the first time.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am confident that a significant amount of work has been done, and VenuesLive has already had some preliminary conversations with both football and cricket. It has been working with Westadium, so I think that the transition for VenuesLive will be fairly seamless. As I said, it is about to start advertising for a chief executive officer and it will be looking to employ 70 full-time equivalents, as well as event management staff. This is a good-news story for the state for employment and making sure that we are on

track to ensure that when we open the doors at Perth Stadium in early 2018, everything is complete. Because the member peppered me with a thousand questions, I have actually forgotten the last question.

Several members interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: The last question; the member asked three questions.

Several members interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: Does the member want me to answer it or not? What was it?

Ms R. Saffioti: What is the state taxpayer contribution to securing events compared with the stadium operator's contribution?

Ms M.J. DAVIES: Tourism WA made an announcement about attracting events. That is in the budget. VenuesLive is responsible—that is the contract it has—for attracting events to the stadium. The project definition plan that we outlined had between 32 and 37 events. One of the reasons that VenuesLive was successful was that it gave an undertaking that it would secure 40 events. That is significantly higher than what we anticipated. There was a whole range of other reasons that VenuesLive was selected, but in particular it was successful over the other bidders because of its capacity to attract events to the stadium. VenuesLive will work with Tourism WA and VenuesWest to ensure that we have that content scheduled, ready for 2018.