

KEP KATITJIN–GABI KAADADJAN: WATERWISE PERTH ACTION PLAN 2

Statement by Minister for Water

MR D.J. KELLY (Bassendean — Minister for Water) [12.15 pm]: I rise to inform the house that this week is National Water Week. On Monday, I launched *Kep Katitjin–Gabi Kaadadjan: Waterwise Perth action plan 2*. Kep Katitjin and Gabi Kaadadjan are the Whadjuk and Bindjareb Noongar names for “water knowledge”. The Whadjuk and Bindjareb Noongar people are the traditional owners of Boorloo and Bindjareb—Perth and Peel. Traditional owners were integral in the drafting of this plan and I would like to thank them for their work. The plan commits us to further understanding traditional owner knowledge of water management in Perth and Peel. This new two-year plan builds on the success of our first Waterwise Perth action plan, released in 2019. This new plan has 41 actions across 11 agencies that reflect a whole-of government approach to waterwise planning. The plan also includes reductions to groundwater use in the Perth–Peel region, which will save 70 gigalitres of precious groundwater a year by 2028.

Yesterday, I announced the 2022–23 Waterwise towns program across 46 towns in the south west, goldfields, great southern, midwest and north west regions. Under this program, the McGowan government is offering residents replacements for inefficient water fixtures, rainwater tank rebates and free irrigation and plumbing services. Over 10 years, this program has saved an estimated 1.7 billion litres of water and helped families in regional WA to reduce their water bills. Today, I announced a \$4 million program for eligible local governments under the Gnamara groundwater plan to assist them to reduce their groundwater use by 10 per cent by 2028. This new program will support local government projects that improve water efficiency and urban cooling in their suburbs.

National Water Week is an important opportunity to reflect on the impact that climate change is having on our communities and the important measures this government is taking in response.