

BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CENTRES

163. Mr T.K. WALDRON to the Minister for Small Business:

I ask a supplementary question. Has it been the minister's intention all along to encourage such resignations so that he can shut business enterprise centres down?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO replied:

Absolutely not. This government is about placing business enterprise centres in the right locations to provide the greatest assistance to the most businesses possible. It is not about closing BECs down. We want to ensure they are effective. That is why I have not rushed in and made a decision, and why the process has been extended to December. This will allow us to go through the recommendations carefully, and to go back to people for comment about what is proposed before we make the final decision. The outcome will be great for small business. We will provide BECs in the right locations to provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number of small businesses.

The SPEAKER: I call to order the member for Vasse for the second time. The member does not have the capacity to speak on every question. Even if he wants to, he is not permitted to do so.