

FISHERIES — DISTRICT OFFICE CLOSURES

**645. Mr V.A. CATANIA to the Minister for Fisheries:**

I have a supplementary question. How many regional DPIRD employees, many of whom are struggling with mental health and poor workplace morale, will need to take redundancies or relocate as a result of these closures?

**Mr D.J. KELLY replied:**

As I said to the member, there are no compulsory redundancies. No-one will have to relocate. That is my understanding.

**Mr V.A. Catania** interjected.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** We have given a guarantee that there will be no compulsory redundancies—absolutely, member. As I said, the member has an absolute cheek, considering what he did to DPIRD staff under the eight and a half years of the former government. We picked that department up, when people had suffered cuts after cuts after cuts under the stewardship of the National Party.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Ms M.J. Davies** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the National Party!

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** The only thing I can put it down to is that what the former government allowed to happen in the agriculture department was really reflective of the argument in the previous government between the National Party and the Liberal Party. The Liberal Party had the Minister for Agriculture and Food, and the National Party had the Minister for Regional Development, and they would not talk to each other, they were dysfunctional —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, you have been going for over five minutes. I know you like to talk.

**Mr D.J. KELLY:** I keep getting interjected on. If, for once, the National Party would take responsibility for what it did to that department, it could really start to take forward its arguments, but, until it does that, we will hold it to account.

**Ms M.J. Davies** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for North West Central, I heard you the first time.

Before I get to the member for Perth, everyone knows that they are not allowed to have their phone on in the chamber, and it is very disappointing that the Deputy Speaker strayed on that side. So I call the member for Maylands to order for the first time. I have always wanted to do that; that is it.