

SHARK DRUM LINE PROGRAM

**279. Mr D.J. KELLY to the Acting Premier:**

I refer the Acting Premier to answers given yesterday by the Minister for Fisheries in which he refused to provide a costing for this year's summer shark drum line policy and he refused to provide anticipated costs for the next three years if the federal government grants the necessary exemptions.

- (1) Will the Acting Premier now tell the Western Australian public how much the shark drum line policy has cost this year?
- (2) Will he now tell the public of Western Australia how much he anticipates the shark drum line policy to cost over the next three years; and, if he will not or is unable to do so, is this not further evidence that this policy was poorly researched, poorly planned and poorly executed?

**Dr K.D. HAMES replied:**

- (1)–(2) Yes, I am happy to give those figures. Mr Speaker, I have just remembered that the Minister for Fisheries has declined to give those numbers, so I will not give those numbers. The reality is that this policy has been done by the Liberal–National government in response to the serious number of deaths in this state. We are strong supporters of the policy. Of course, I have not seen the query that has been sent to the minister, but if it is the case that he will not release those details, and I presume it is from what the member has said, neither will I.