

MIDLAND SALEYARDS, SALE PRICE

491. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the Minister for Agriculture and Forestry:

- (1) Will the minister provide a breakdown of the complete sale price of the Midland saleyards and the attached land?
- (2) As there is an expected surplus after the completion of the replacement Muchea selling complex, will this money be spent on upgrading regional saleyard facilities, and will the minister guarantee that this money will not be absorbed into general government revenue?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I am delighted to advise Hon Nigel Hallett that I do, in fact, have an answer to the question, despite my advice to him earlier this afternoon.

- (1) The budget estimate for the total cost of establishing the replacement saleyard at Muchea is \$16 million. All Western Australian Meat Industry Authority holdings at Midland and Hazelmere will be progressively sold and all the proceeds will be required for the livestock saleyard development.
- (2) There is no expected surplus from those sales, but that is not to say that there will not be one.

I suggest to Hon Nigel Hallett and other members, who will obviously have an interest in this matter as it develops, that they have a meeting with Mr McFerrin from the Meat Industry Authority who will give them an up-to-date briefing on the issue. I am happy to make that briefing available to any member with an interest, and not only on a once-off basis. If they want that briefing on a quarterly basis, I would be happy to arrange it.