

AVON INDUSTRIAL PARK

**186. Mr TRENORDEN to the Minister for Regional Development:**

Does the minister recognise that the Avon region will have a sharp increase in job creation because of the Avon industrial park, the new *AvonLink* train, the Avon international multiversity and other issues inclusive of a very healthy natural growth? Will the minister back an effort by local government to measure and plan for this growth?

**Mr COWAN replied:**

The short answer is yes. I would be pleased if the Town of Northam, the Shire of Northam and perhaps surrounding local government authorities that were involved in the development of the Avon industrial park, were to get together with the Wheatbelt Development Commission to develop strategic planning processes which could outline the future of the region. Even though the land has only just been made available, the Avon industrial park already has three firm tenants. They are not established yet but they have gone through the process of acquiring land.

The member for Avon recognises that the *AvonLink* train is designed to provide better commuter links to Perth. It will not necessarily create jobs in the area, other than perhaps in the initial building stages. The assumption is that commuters will live in the Avon region and work in the Perth urban areas. Nevertheless, other service jobs will be created as a result of the additional population.

The Avon international multiversity is only in an embryonic stage, but it has tremendous potential. My understanding is that it expects to have a significant number of students, teachers and lecturers. I welcome the initiative and hope that some of the conceptual plans I have seen will eventuate, because it is a very big project.

POOLE, MS YVONNE, UNFAIR DISMISSAL CASE

**2. Mr RIPPER to the Minister for Labour Relations:**

I refer to the unfair dismissal case lodged in the Industrial Magistrates Court on 2 March 2000 by Yvonne Poole, and listed for hearing on 9 and 10 August.

- (1) Why was this two-day trial, which was set down two months beforehand, not listed in the Magistrates Court list in *The West Australian* on 9 August?
- (2) Why was the matter not included on the daily court lists posted within the confines of the court building?
- (3) Does the minister have a reasonable explanation for these omissions?

**Mrs EDWARDES replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question. I sought advice from the Industrial Relations Commission and it has provided me with an answer. The matter was not listed in either *The West Australian* or the daily court list on 9 August 2000, because the automatic generation of the court list on that day failed in respect of this matter as the magistrate's name had not been entered in the system. That occurred because the industrial magistrate who heard the matter sits infrequently as an industrial magistrate. The error was detected on 9 August, corrected, and *The West Australian* and the court list for 10 August contained the listing. To avoid any similar problem in the future, all magistrates' names have now been included in the system. The matter was listed in the Press and in the court listings on 21 March 2000, when it was set down for a pre-trial conference before the clerk to the Industrial Magistrate.