

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS AND WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

1094. Hon Rick Mazza to the minister representing the Minister for Water:

- (1) Why are none of the water resource management plans in Western Australia statutory plans?
- (2) Why hasn't the Minister appointed a Water Resources Council for the State under Part IIA of the *Water Agencies (Powers) Act 1984* to provide peak level advice to the Minister for Water?

Hon Alannah MacTiernan replied:

- (1) In Western Australia, the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 requires that any statutory plans developed under that Act are considered by a Water Resources Council established under the Water Agencies (Powers) Act 1984. As the previous Government did not appoint a Water Resources Council, none of the water resources management plans in WA are statutory plans.
- (2) A Water Resources Council had not been established by the previous Government when I came to office as Minister for Water. I am currently considering the development of new water resources legislation which would modernise the requirements and approach to the development of statutory plans.