

ROTTNEST ISLAND HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

**126. Mr C.J. BARNETT to the Minister for Tourism:**

I refer the minister to the recent resignation of Rottnest Island Authority Board chairperson, Jenny Archibald, and the island's acting chief executive officer, Lesley Smith, which coincided with the minister's announcement that the Rottnest Island Hotel redevelopment project had been terminated.

- (1) Did the minister meet with the Rottnest Island Board to discuss recommendations from his Rottnest Island Taskforce with regard to the redevelopment of the Rottnest Island Hotel?
- (2) Did the minister issue any directives to the Rottnest Island Board or in any way pressure the board to terminate the hotel redevelopment project?

**Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:**

- (1) Yes, I have met with the Rottnest Island Authority board on a number of occasions about the general redevelopment of the island, including the hotel.
- (2) No, I issued no directives to the authority.

Those on my side of the House are determined to make sure that they put the island on a sustainable footing. I pass on to the Opposition the conversations that have occurred with the businesspeople on the island. They are thoroughly disgusted with the way in which the other side of the House is talking down a most magnificent resort. The island is in business and will remain in business. It is still a great holiday place. The only thing that will thwart the island being a magnificent holiday place is the constant negativity that is being thrust upon it day after day from the other side of the House. Mr Speaker, Rottnest is a great place to go for a holiday. We will continue to go there and we will continue to support it.