

PERTH STADIUM — PRECINCT

693. Mrs G.J. GODFREY to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

The Perth Stadium continues to progress and I understand an announcement was made this morning about the surrounding precinct. Could the minister please provide an update to the house?

Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:

I thank the member for her interest. The work on Perth Stadium, as I have already had the opportunity to update the house, is progressing very well. It is 25 per cent complete. We have about 200 people out on site at the moment, and will have about 5 800 over the course of the project. It is creating lots of jobs and it is a hive of activity. The Premier, the member for South Perth and I were out there this morning for the announcement that BHP Billiton will commit \$5 million towards the boardwalk and amphitheatre.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! Member for Girrawheen!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: I think we are suffering a little the same as the Minister for Health; we are accused of not bringing information to the house, and when we do, members do not listen.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Through the Chair, please.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: The boardwalk is going to be fantastic. In essence, this will allow us to really energise that precinct. It will be an important part of the —

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Girrawheen, I call you to order for the first time. I was hoping to get another question in, but there has been such a waste of time, we will not be able to. Minister, a quick answer, please.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: There is \$5 million towards a boardwalk and amphitheatre in the precinct, which will essentially allow us to start developing the precinct at the same time as the stadium is being constructed so it can be activated —

Several members interjected.

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: Point of order, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: I never heard anything. What is your point of order?

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: The Premier said, “You’re all a bunch of idiots”. Would you ask him to withdraw?

The SPEAKER: I never heard any statement. Are we going to now bog this thing down?

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: The usual practice that occurs with me is that when a member raises this sort of point of order, the member who is accused of having said something is asked to say whether they said the words or not. I have explained to the house the unparliamentary words that were used by our arrogant Premier, and I would like to know whether he is going to be asked to withdraw.

The SPEAKER: Premier? I never heard anything said.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Mr Speaker, I certainly said “What a bunch of idiots”, and if that is unparliamentary, I withdraw.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: The statement has been withdrawn; we are wasting time.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: I just have one more thing to say and I really would like to say it!

There will be a series of interpretive storyboards along the way recognising the role and importance of Indigenous Australians within the stadium site and within Western Australia. So this will be a really important part of the precinct. It will be activated alongside the construction of the —

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cannington! Member for Cannington, do you want to have a rest? I do not want to hear from you again.

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro, I call you to order for the third time.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: It will include children's playgrounds, there will be picnic and barbecue areas, an oval, integrated artwork, and a whole range of food and beverage. It will be open all year round so that people who live in and around the Burswood peninsula, which is becoming a really vibrant area, will be able to utilise those facilities. It is a fantastic partnership, facilitated as part of Westadium's bid, and it is a \$5 million investment to create a really wonderful precinct around our world-class stadium.