

PERTH STADIUM — PROGRESS

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

The new Perth Stadium is well underway, and I understand that another milestone was recently met. Can the minister please update the house on what is happening with this most important state project?

Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:

I thank the member for Belmont very much for her question. There is some fantastic news in this project, and we have had a couple of key milestones in the last few weeks. The stadium is really starting to take shape, and everyone can see that as they drive past; piles are going in, and it is a hive of activity. Once it is complete, it will transform the Burswood peninsula.

Our teams will have access to some of the best facilities in any stadium in Australia. On Tuesday, the changing rooms and coaches boxes for the local Australian Football League teams were chosen. The two changing rooms are located on the northern side of the stadium and flank the field club, which is a premium area that is located on the boundary and designed to create a special fan experience. The coach's boxes are located directly above the changing rooms, on level 3, again on the north side of the stadium. The two changing rooms and the two coach's boxes are identical in size and configuration, so there is no question of any bias towards either of the two state teams. For interested members, the decision was made by a coin toss, which was won by the West Coast Eagles—hopefully, that is not an omen for future derbies this year. The changing rooms and boxes can now be customised according to the requirements of the two teams and accommodated through the design and development process to create a really unique club environment for our two teams. That will, hopefully, help us maintain the really strong home-ground advantage we have in the Australian Football League.

We also have a dedicated away team changing room and coach's box, so that the Dockers and Eagles can remain in the changing rooms throughout the season.

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Albany. That is very interesting. Carry on, minister.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: Member, it is a great project; I am just updating the house. It is a fantastic outcome.

The three-year construction phase is going to benefit Western Australians well before the stadium opens. More than 100 tender packages have been let already. One announcement that was made just recently by Hon Michael Mischin on my behalf was for the supply of 14 000 tonnes of steel coming from a Henderson-based company, Civmec, with a contract valued at \$73 million. I am sorry the member for Cockburn is not here because he was particularly interested in this. Civmec is significantly competitive in that market, and I know the team at Westadium is working very hard to make sure our local businesses get a great outcome in all these processes. That contract alone secures 120 jobs, and it is a great opportunity to showcase the skills of our local steel fabrication industry.

Mr D.J. Kelly: Three hundred jobs?

Ms M.J. DAVIES: It is 120.

Several members interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: You are a nasty piece of work.

All the construction opportunities will be advertised on ProjectConnect, and I thought members on this side of the house would be interested in the fact that this particular project is generating considerable jobs for Western Australians at a really important time in our state's history.

Several members interjected.

Ms M.J. DAVIES: There is a portal on the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia's website, and I encourage all our local companies that might be interested in participating in this fantastic project for the state to have a look at that. The new Perth Stadium is just one of many of the job creation opportunities this government has on the go at the moment, and I look forward to updating the house as we meet further milestones.