

MANDURAH JUNCTION — TREES

804. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Lands:

I refer to the development known as Mandurah Junction being undertaken by LandCorp.

- (1) Is the minister aware of the damage being done to the roots of retained trees within the site, the removal of the understorey and scraping back of soil, which is likely to cause disease and death?
- (2) Further, is the minister aware that the federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 conditions require 175 trees to be retained but that LandCorp is leaving only 150 trees?
- (3) If this is the case, will the minister act immediately to ensure the retention of 175 trees and end the destruction of the public open space in the area?

HON WENDY DUNCAN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The minister has provided the following response —

- (1) The minister is aware that the development is being undertaken with due care and in accordance with approvals.
- (2) Of the 175 trees intended to be retained, only eight have been damaged and removed. One tree was classified as dead and was removed; five trees were damaged during the installation of underground services by the civil works contractor and were also removed. The contractor is legally responsible to make due restitution on completion of the works. In addition, two trees that were damaged—one was uprooted and one was split in two—during a recent storm event were also removed.
- (3) In addition to the trees agreed to be retained, LandCorp has committed to extensively enhance the existing and future public open space areas within the precinct, including the planting of an additional 650 trees approximately over the project time frame.