

FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP — COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

393. Mrs L.M. O'MALLEY to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

I refer to the Cook Labor government's delivery of the Matildas in the Western Australian festival of football later this year.

- (1) Can the minister outline to the house how this government's support for sporting events in WA such as the FIFA Women's World Cup next month is strengthening our grassroots and community participation?
- (2) Can the minister advise the house how this government's commitment to developing sustainable community sporting infrastructure is delivering important benefits to communities?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

(1)–(2) I am still pondering the attack on me as the former Minister for Tourism—a short but spectacular history!

The SPEAKER: It was an own goal!

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I thank the member for Bicton for her question, which, of course, highlights the building anticipation for the FIFA Women's World Cup next month. That whole focus on the festival of sport and making sure we deliver a great legacy to sport more broadly, but football as a game more specifically, is very much a part of the priority of the Cook Labor government. It has been great to see Sam Kerr in town this week. What a wonderful, wonderful role model for Western Australians, particularly for young Western Australians and girls and young women in the code of football. It is tremendous that she has been out in the community visiting schools and doing things like that; it is great.

In her blatant attack on me earlier, the Minister for Tourism mentioned the Matildas playing three games here in Perth, which have been scheduled. I really hope that those who are great and passionate supporters of football in Western Australia understand the implications of having the FIFA Women's World Cup here. That means the eyes of the world will be on Perth for several weeks and on the other host cities in Australia and New Zealand. It will be a magnificent opportunity to showcase the game and highlight the increasing participation of girls and young women in the sport. We know that the increase in participation has been remarkable. One of the great legacies that the Cook Labor government will be leaving for Western Australians after the FIFA Women's World Cup is a whole range of programs and projects that will be legacy items. The stadium we now call HBF Stadium will be known during the FIFA Women's World Cup as the Perth Rectangular Stadium—that, of course, has been upgraded to FIFA Women's World Cup standards. That will be a great legacy for the game, for concerts and other activities at that venue over time. For the first time, we will see a real centre for football being built in the member for Cannington's electorate. It is a \$45-plus million project of state and federal government money. For the first time, football will have a centre to call home with the State Football Centre. We upgraded Dorrien Gardens. Kingsway Regional Sporting Complex has been upgraded with over \$2.7 million of funding for floodlighting. I know the member for Landsdale is very excited about this; it will be the base camp for the Denmark national team during the FIFA Women's World Cup, which is tremendous. The Percy Doyle Reserve received just on \$1 million of upgrades, which has been focusing on making sure the changing rooms and other facilities are for females playing the game, which is tremendous. We know that the community sporting and recreation facilities fund has been increased by \$7.5 million each year for the next four years. That is already creating excitement because I am encouraging members to speak to their local governments and make sure they put in those applications.

A few members here will be very pleased about the last couple of budgets. We have had upgrades in Bicton, in the member's own electorate, with Fremantle City Football Club allocated \$600 000. In Jandakot, in the City of Melville, John Connell Reserve was allocated \$625 000. In Forrestfield, in the City of Kalamunda, over \$2.4 million was allocated to the Norm Sadler Pavilion—a great pavilion! I have been there a couple of times. There is the Balcatta Etna Football Club. I went there with the member for Balcatta, the minister, to officially turn on the lights. There is over \$1 million of investment there and, at the Rickman Delawney Reserve, there is \$500 000 for a works package. The list goes on. I assure members of this —

Mr K. Michel interjected.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: Yes, member. Remember we opened up that magnificent venue at the racecourse a few weeks ago. That horse I bet on in race 7 did not come in, I might say—a great tipster you are!

I assure the house that we will continue to invest in all codes—we mentioned netball in one of the grievances this morning. Of course, for football, this is the magic moment. We are going to see tremendous attention in Western Australia and Perth in particular in the next few weeks with the FIFA Women's World Cup. Please get out there, make sure your clubs are supporting this because it is a great moment for female sport, a great moment for girls and young women in the code, and a great moment for Perth, Western Australia to once again showcase

that it can and will host magnificent sporting events into the future. Of course, the new Minister for Tourism will continue to win those great events! I will be supporting her, right alongside her!