

POLICE COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH AND COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

Mrs EDWARDES to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

I refer the minister to the Midland Redevelopment Authority and the recommendation to the minister following its meeting of 4 May 2001 on the tender for the road to link with the new police computer aided dispatch and communications facility.

- (1) Given that the funding was included in the 2000-01 budget, the police CADCOM facility is near completion, and all environmental approvals have been received, why has the tender not yet been approved?
- (2) Will not this delay by the minister stall the Midland redevelopment and cost taxpayers' dollars?

Ms MacTIERNAN replied:

(1)-(2) Unfortunately, the member for Kingsley gave no notice of this question, which is regrettable.

Mr Barnett: It is straightforward.

Ms MacTIERNAN: If members want an answer, it does help to give some notice when dealing with an issue like this. The Government supports the concept of the Midland Redevelopment Authority. However, as I am sure members opposite are aware, we have concerns about the general direction in which the Midland Redevelopment Authority is going, and we have also received many representations from community groups and business about the direction in which the authority is going. We are trying to deal with those issues in a more global way and to take a broader look at the progress of the authority, rather than deal with these issues piecemeal, and we will make the decisions once we have been able to sort that out. We will not go ahead and approve -

Mr Day: This is a simple question about a road!

Ms MacTIERNAN: It may be a simple question to the member for Darling Range. However, it is part of the problem his mob had in planning. The former Government separated transport planning from land use planning, and I put it to members opposite that planning can be done properly only if we take a holistic view. Perhaps the member for Kingsley, with her political contacts, will be able to help the Government sort out the problem at the Midland Redevelopment Authority so that we can put that organisation back on a proper track.