

MOTOR INDUSTRY TRAINING ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA —
CITY OF JOONDALUP RATES

730. Mr A.P. O'GORMAN to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the grievance I raised with the minister on 22 September this year concerning the City of Joondalup's decision to charge the Motor Industry Training Association of Western Australia local government rates, despite MITA being recognised as a charitable organisation by both the state and federal governments.

- (1) Why has the minister refused to grant a rate exemption to the Motor Industry Training Association?
- (2) Will he table the advice he received from his department that assisted him to make a decision?
- (3) Which representatives from the City of Joondalup shared with the minister their views on this issue?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:

- (1)–(3) The member for Joondalup did raise that grievance with me. I said that I would undertake to review it, which I have. The organisation did not get any subsidy from the City of Stirling when it was located in that area. I took regard of the information, reporting and advice I got from my department. It is a very complex issue. A range of not-for-profit organisations are looking for rate exemptions. Of course, as I understand it, the commonwealth government is looking at the question of what is a not-for-profit organisation, because organisations such as retirement homes are also asking for rate exemptions. It is a very complex issue and it has a major impact on local governments and their rates revenue. Of course, at this time, I took the advice that I would not support it.