

CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION REPORT — LORD MAYOR

**242. Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN to the Minister for Local Government:**

I refer to the minister's statement to Parliament today regarding the inquiry into matters arising from the Corruption and Crime Commission's report concerning the Lord Mayor of Perth.

- (1) Given that the report alleges that the Lord Mayor on multiple occasions failed to disclose gifts and contributions to travel in annual reports between 1 January 2008 and 12 October 2015, will the minister call on the Lord Mayor to resign her position?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Why has this process taken so long to resolve?

**Mr A.J. SIMPSON replied:**

- (1)–(3) I thank the member for Mandurah for his question. To start off with question (3), in May 2015 the CCC kicked off an inquiry into the Lord Mayor. The department received that report in November, just over six months later. It has taken just over six months again to get to where we are now. With regard to the submissions taking too long, I think the department has done a fantastic job to get to where we are today, considering the amount of work that is in this report. As I read in the statement this afternoon regarding the next step of this process, and as I quite clearly pointed out, the director general of the Department of Local Government and Communities is now going off to the State Administrative Tribunal to work through the process of dealing with the serious allegations in this report. As the Minister for Local Government, I make sure we implement the Local Government Act as it stands. It is my job as minister to do that. It quite clearly states that for any breaches to do with the act, the director general will take part in the process. She has put this part of the process off to the State Administrative Tribunal to work through that —

**Mr D.A. Templeman** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Mandurah! I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr A.J. SIMPSON:** As I pointed out, the State Administrative Tribunal then takes it to the next level to work out the inquiry from there. The report has been released in very good time; I think the department has done a fantastic job of putting this together.

**Mr D.A. Templeman** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Mandurah, I call you to order for the second time. You asked the question; let the minister answer the —

**Mr D.A. Templeman:** He's not answering it!

**The SPEAKER:** Do not debate with me, please! Minister, address the matters that were raised by the member for Mandurah.

**Mr A.J. SIMPSON:** This is quite a serious report. There has been a lot of community input into this and scrutiny of it. I think the community should have a read of it and form its own opinion with regard to how it goes forward. But what is more important from my perspective as the minister is to make sure that we follow this correctly. It has now passed from the director general to the State Administrative Tribunal to work through the process. I have full confidence in the department and SAT to deal with those inquiries from there.