

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMALGAMATIONS — PETITIONS

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

My supplementary question to the minister, because he did not answer any of the questions I asked, is: why do ratepayers in the City of Belmont not get a say in this amalgamation process, but Mayor Phil Marks has said it will cost up to \$7 million for the city's ratepayers and it will push Belmont rates up by 18.6 per cent? Mr Marks is not happy with the minister either.

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

I thank the member for his supplementary question. I restate: the Local Government Advisory Board went through all the proposals that were put before it. In the case of Belmont and Kalamunda —

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

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Mandurah, I call you to order for the first time. Minister, I want a short answer to the supplementary.

**Mr A.J. SIMPSON:** I would love to, Mr Speaker.

The Local Government Advisory Board went through the process of looking at all the proposals that were put in front of it. Keep in mind this process started with 12 proposals from me on behalf of the government. Of the 12 proposals that I put in, only one got up. It was either the proposal from the City of Belmont or the Shire of Kalamunda that got up before the advisory board. That is why they have a process in today.