

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (REGIONAL SUBSIDIARIES) BILL 2014

Restoration to Notice Paper — Motion

MR R.S. LOVE (Moore — Parliamentary Secretary) [11.33 am]: I move —

That the Local Government Amendment (Regional Subsidiaries) Bill 2014 be restored to the point it reached prior to its removal from the notice paper on Tuesday, 15 September 2015.

The Local Government Amendment (Regional Subsidiaries) Bill was introduced on 26 June 2014 and had its second reading on 11 September 2014, but it has not progressed since then. It is necessary to restore the bill because we are yet to see the delivery of a regional subsidiaries model in Western Australia. The regional subsidiaries described in the bill are of a similar type to those existing in other states and probably go further than those in providing tools for local government to use shared business models to carry out functions of local government in a cost-effective manner, potentially enabling a wider range of services to be provided. The bill seeks to amend the Local Government Act 1995 and is similar in nature to previous attempts to provide regional subsidiaries to local government in Western Australia—a private member's bill introduced by Hon Max Trenorden in the other place, and a bill introduced by the former Minister for Local Government, the current member for Bunbury. The continued absence of this important tool for local government, despite there being calls for its introduction from the sector, including strong support from the Western Australian Local Government Association in this term and previous terms of government, is the reason I am seeking the support of the house this morning for the restoration of this bill.

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [11.34 am]: Obviously, this restoration is a procedural motion. As shadow Minister for Local Government, I also would like to see the Local Government Amendment (Regional Subsidiaries) Bill reinstated onto the notice paper because I support it being considered as soon as possible. It is important legislation, particularly for regional communities in Western Australia.

Question put and passed.