

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

**Division 44: Sport and Recreation, \$185 237 000 —**

Mr J.M. Francis, Chairman.

Mr T.K. Waldron, Minister for Sport and Recreation.

Mr R. Alexander, Director General.

Mr A. Watt, Director, Business Management.

Mr R.D. Didcoe, Director, Facilities and Camps.

Mr D.P. Rosielle, Chief Finance Officer.

Mr M.S. Cutler, Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister for Sport and Recreation.

**The CHAIRMAN:** This estimates committee will be reported by Hansard staff. The daily proof *Hansard* will be published at 9.00 am tomorrow.

It is the intention of the Chair to ensure that as many questions as possible are asked and answered and that both questions and answers are short and to the point. The estimates committee's consideration of the estimates will be restricted to discussion of those items for which a vote of money is proposed in the consolidated account. Questions must be clearly related to a page number, item program or amount in the current division. It will greatly assist Hansard if members can give these details in preface to their question.

The minister may agree to provide supplementary information to the committee, rather than asking that the question be put on notice for the next sitting week. I ask the minister to clearly indicate what supplementary information he agrees to provide and I will then allocate a reference number. If supplementary information is to be provided, I seek the minister's cooperation in ensuring that it is delivered to the committee clerk by Friday, 8 June 2012. I caution members that if a minister asks that a matter be put on notice, it is up to the member to lodge the question on notice with the Clerk's office.

I now ask the minister to introduce his advisers to the committee.

[Witnesses introduced.]

**The CHAIRMAN:** I give the member for Collie–Preston the call.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I seek clarification. The section of the budget papers relating to “Sport and Recreation” starts at page 507. It was not my understanding that we were dealing with “Racing and Gaming” first, but “Sport and Recreation”.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We will start with “Sport and Recreation”, then we will go on to VenuesWest and then “Racing and Gaming”. I understand that the last half hour is allocated to Racing and Wagering Western Australia, which is out of budget.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Will we just follow the order of the budget papers and not go backwards and forwards?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Between now and 12.30 pm, we have three divisions to deal with. I am happy to take guidance from members on my left as to what percentage of time they want to spend on those divisions.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** We will see how we go.

I refer to page 507 of budget paper No 2, and then page 509, which shows appropriations, expenses and cash assets. The Treasurer mentioned a two per cent efficiency dividend. What existing program services will the minister cut to meet that efficiency dividend? What programs and services will be delayed or wound back and by how long? Will there be any cuts to staff numbers; and, if so, in which areas? Will there be delays in filling vacant FTEs? Will there be an FTE vacancy rate that is maintained on an ongoing basis? What new measures have been introduced? Which existing fees and charges have been increased? What capital works will be delayed?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** There is an efficiency dividend of two per cent, one per cent, one per cent and one per cent. In the past we have also had efficiency dividends applied to the Department of Sport and Recreation that we have always been able to meet. We have never applied those to our major grants programs or our major front-line services that we provide to the community for sport and recreation. That will be the same in this case. I am in the process of working with the director general and his department to identify the areas across which we will meet the efficiency dividend. I want to make it clear that our major grants programs and major services will not be targeted. Whether there are efficiency cuts or not, since I have been minister—I think this happened when the

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

Labor Party was in government as well—different programs and services that are run through Sport and Recreation are examined on an ongoing basis to ensure that they are doing what they are meant to be doing. Sometimes a certain program or service may run its course. If that occurs, we will look at discontinuing that.

The member asked about FTEs. There is a possibility that some FTEs could be impacted by this. That has yet to be identified. We are still going through that process. I cannot give the member figures today.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** When will the process be achieved? When will the minister make his decisions?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We will make our decisions as we go on. We have to find two per cent in the first year. We have already started the process. Our country officers do a fantastic job. From time to time we always examine how they are working and the number of staff employed. We run different programs. They may run for a certain period, and when they have fulfilled their usefulness, we are better off utilising that funding somewhere else.

The member also asked about new funding. I will not go into this in detail now but members have to remember that last year we brought an extra \$20 million into the budget for our Sport 4 All program. That was brand-new money that really delivered at the coalface. I do not know what other detail the member wanted. I cannot give him much detail at the moment. It is a work in progress. That is how we have always done it in Sport and Recreation. We delivered last time and I am sure we will deliver again.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I refer to the summary of portfolio appropriations on page 507. The budget drops from \$84 million to \$70 million and the minister cannot identify where the cuts are going to be.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** What page is that on?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** It is on page 507, under the summary right at the start.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** What was the member's question again?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The budget for 2011–12 was \$84 339 000, the estimated actual for 2011–12 was \$72 594 000 and the budget estimate for 2012–13 is \$70 574 000. Surely there must be some indication of where these cuts are going to come from. The minister said that he has started.

[10.10 am]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** As I understand it, the 2011–12 estimated actual is greater than the figure in the 2012–13 budget because of an amount of \$5.483 million, which is due to the Perth rectangular stadium, the nib Stadium. When we negotiated the lease with the City of Vincent, there was a one-off \$5 million payment negotiated as part of that lease. That is the difference there, as I understand it.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** I refer to the fourth dot point on page 511 of the *Budget Statements* and the reference to the state netball centre. The minister said last year that the development of a new state netball centre was a priority of the government. Can the minister advise when regular visitors to the Matthews Netball Centre, like me, might see the new construction of the state netball centre?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** A state netball centre was talked about for a long, long time. I remember when I sat on the other side of the house, we pressed for the development of a state netball centre. The issue went on for a long time. Different ideas were put forward. Since coming to government, we decided to go ahead and build that centre. It will be a \$26.1 million state netball centre delivered at the Matthews centre. We also committed a further \$5 million towards works at the Matthews Netball Centre that was the result of negotiations with the Town of Cambridge. It will be a state netball centre. It will be a training facility for Western Australia's elite netballers—senior and junior. West Coast Fever will train there; it will be their centre. It will also be the competition home of the Smarter than Smoking State Netball League, as well as academy and association championships. It will be the headquarters for Netball WA's administration. The funding of the Town of Cambridge has been done via a financial assistance agreement. Netball WA's building for the Perth netball centre is very old and dilapidated. We have agreed to replace that association building. We also need to reconfigure netball courts because the new state centre will upset the netball courts. There are also associated roadworks et cetera. The lease is signed. The financial assistance agreement is done. The commencement of work will occur at the end of this netball season. We hope to complete it in the early part of 2014. Construction will not start until the end of the netball season. It makes sense to not disrupt this season's netball when we do not have to. The facility will be a fantastic, world-class facility. It will have four indoor courts. The beauty is that not only will it cater for elite netball squads, but Perth netball will have access to the courts—although I stress that the state squads will have major access. It will be a state centre, but on a Saturday they will have access to two courts and at other times when it is not being used. It will be a wonderful facility. I look forward to it being done. Netball is a huge sport in Western Australia. One of the things I have noticed with netball, even in country

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

WA, is that it is now moving indoors. Most netball used to be played outdoors. A lot of netball is moving indoors.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** You should play them outdoors to toughen them up!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Well, member for Albany! There is a magnificent facility down in Albany that the government also funded.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** West Coast Fever is getting knocked off all the time.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is interesting because I watched Fever on the weekend. They lost by one. The Sri Lankan team is over. The Sri Lankan national team gets to train on one-third of an outside court. We are doing pretty well here. We are trying to help Sri Lankan netball as well. Does that answer the member for Scarborough's question?

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Have the traffic management issues around the centre been resolved?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That is a bit more technical. I know that traffic management and placement of roads and parking et cetera have been taken into account as part of the redevelopment. I refer to Rob Didcoe, the director of facilities, to make comment on traffic management.

**Mr R.D. Didcoe:** We have worked very closely with the town on planning and doing traffic management studies. In my view, we are aligned at the moment on what the traffic management will be. There will be a new intersection. People will find that that will make a great difference to how traffic is controlled on the site. A fair bit of consideration was also given to traffic management within the site itself.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Fingers crossed!

**Mr R.D. Didcoe:** Yes.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** I refer to the Perth rectangular stadium redevelopment outlined as work in progress on page 514 of the *Budget Statements*. Can the minister give an update on the status of Perth Glory and whether it will be playing there into the future; and, what will be the implications for the stadium if Perth Glory decides not to remain at Perth rectangular stadium?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I know that the member for Victoria Park has a great interest in the rectangular stadium—as do I. It will be fantastic. It is due to start in about July, which is very soon. I am very confident that Perth Glory will play there. It is in their best interests to play there. I will let the member know why. I was very buoyed the other day when I heard Tony Sage talking about the new stand and saying how wonderful it will be for their supporters. One of the issues with nib Stadium is the condition of the eastern stand. It is a temporary stand. It has reached the stage at which it would have to be replaced. If games continue to be played there, that stand would be replaced with another temporary stand. We are spending about \$95 million to upgrade that stand fully with good seating, cover and modern facilities. There will also be premium areas for corporate boxes et cetera. The great thing about the redevelopment for Perth Glory is that it will give it the opportunity to offer more to its fans. Remember, where Perth Glory fans sit is pretty terrible. This will give Perth Glory the ability to earn more income. It will also provide match-day savings. An issue at the moment is that the video screen and the public announcement system are a cost to the sports when they play there. All of those costs come off match-day earnings. They will have the ability to earn more income by offering members a helluva lot better facilities in which to watch their sport. The Glory will also have the ability to raise more money via the corporates and will be able to sell more corporate facilities. It will place Perth Glory in a good situation, particularly with its success last year. One thing I have learnt from my time in sport, whether it be round ball football, Australian Football League football, cricket or netball et cetera, is that if a team has success on the field, it attracts more clients and makes more money. It is as simple as that.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** The second part of my question was about implications for the rectangular stadium should Glory move in its entirety to another venue or if it plays some of their future games at another venue. Also, following up the answer the minister just gave, has there been another agreement or proposal to Perth Glory to entice them to stay?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No. I do not think they will move. Any sport can choose to move if they want to. Perth Glory has a contract with Allia Venue Management. It is not in their best interests to move. First, I wonder where they would go. Yes; there will be interruptions for Glory with the construction of the stand when capacity will come down to about 10 000 at some stage. It will not be 10 000 all the time, but there will be an impact of which we are fully aware. Perth Glory has been involved in the process all the way through. It is my opinion that after not having the greatest facilities for years, its fans will suddenly get them. I remember the argument with Western Force, which played at Subiaco Oval. It was great at first because it was a new team in town and it got

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

big numbers, but when that number fell, it wanted to go to nib Stadium for the simple reason that most people want to watch rectangular sports in a rectangular stadium, which nib is.

[10.20 am]

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** People may as well have stayed at the station and watched the game with binoculars as they were that far away from the game!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** At Subi?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Yes.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Western Force made a lot of money there. It did pretty well at Subi in the early days, because it sold a lot of corporate boxes, which it cannot sell at nib. It made that decision. We have accommodated Western Force in the best way that we could at the facility. We are now upgrading that facility for both Western Force and Perth Glory. Hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, we will also have a rugby league side playing out of Perth, which I think would be wonderful.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** I think the minister was halfway through a sentence—there would be an implication.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Of course there would be an implication if one of the teams was not playing there. I do not think it is in the interests of soccer in Western Australia, I do not think it is in the interests of Perth Glory, and it is definitely not in the interests of its fans, who have been very loyal. Once the stand is up, people, including the member for Victoria Park, will enjoy a wonderful facility. I think it will be a great boost to Perth Glory.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** What will that implication be? The minister said that there will be one.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I guess it is that there would be fewer paid fixtures there, but I do not envisage it happening; it is a hypothetical.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** So it is an income issue.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Obviously, if the sport is not playing there —

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** What viability will it have?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We are providing that stadium. We have other sports. I am confident that Perth Glory will be there. It has an agreement with Allia Venue Management, so if it is going to move, it will have to come to an agreement with Allia before it can move.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I refer to the asset investment program on page 513. I am talking about what we expect will be the greatest stadium—that is, the Perth major stadium. An amount of \$8 million has been allocated in this year's budget for the completion of the project definition and other preliminary planning for the stadium. Can the minister enlighten the estimates committee on how progress is going with that project definition and what works are being undertaken as we speak?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I thank the member for the question and for his support for and the work he is doing on the stadium; it is very much appreciated. I am sure that his knowledge over many years comes in very helpful to the steering committee. The major stadium is on track; in fact, I think we are in front of where we thought we would be at this stage. The project definition plan phase for the Perth major stadium has met all the key milestones. The project definition plan is on track for completion midway through 2012, which was the estimated time. The procurement of the state advisers for the project definition plan is complete. Contracts have been awarded to the sports architect. Strategic and communications and stakeholders engagements have been awarded. Urban planning costs and planner and financial service contracts have been awarded. I understand that the additional geotechnical environmental work has been awarded to Golder Associates, and that work is underway. One of the key components that has been really important in the early part of the process is that Populous, the stadium architect, presented quite a number of workshops to various stakeholder groups in February and March to help educate and inform those stakeholder groups and to talk about opportunities available for the Perth stadium. That is why we are taking time with the planning phase. This is a big project for the state and it is important that we get it right. There has also been one-on-one consultation. A specific working group within football has been offering advice and is being consulted with on matters pertaining to football. All sports are involved in that. That is all on track. Just recently, we announced the east–west orientation of the ground. We also announced that the dimensions of the ground will be 165 metres long by 130 metres wide. That was quite a significant announcement because there had been quite a lot of conjecture about that. Subiaco Oval is obviously a lot longer. Western Australian teams seem to have an advantage with a longer ground. Subiaco is shorter across, so the new oval's surface will be bigger than that at Subiaco Oval.

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** The Dockers might want it shorter!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We will not get into that or we will be here all day!

Most grounds in Australia are 160 metres long. We thought it pertinent for ours to be 165 metres long and 130 metres wide. I think Etihad Stadium is 160 metres by 130 metres. The other announcement was that the stadium will be for 60 000 people, but it will have the ability to be extended in the future to take 70 000 or even 80 000 people. I make the point that that may or may not happen in the future. We cannot always predict the future. But the ability will be there for the stadium to take 70 000 or 80 000 people. We felt that 60 000 was a good number of people. That is the number that was recommended by the Langoulant task force.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** So you take some information from that group, but you ignore where it says the site should be.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We took a lot of information from the Langoulant task force, and I think I went through that last year. I can talk about the site, if the member for South Perth does not mind me digressing, because the site is really important. We could have had a good stadium at Subiaco, but there are many inhibiting factors at Subiaco. I mean this sincerely. The great thing about this site is that the government owns all the land. It gives us scope so that the stadium is not cramped and nothing can be done around it. I have looked at stadiums around Australia and in England and America. One of the main parts about a stadium is interactivity around the stadium and people's access and egress. It will also form part of the entry statement to Perth with the other projects that this government is doing in the city. We are reshaping the city. This stadium will be wonderful. I am sure that the member for Albany will enjoy it.

Getting back to the question from the member for South Perth, the decision —

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** No-one in my electorate will get any benefit from it.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes, they will. I see lots of people from Albany come to the football; they love it.

Member for South Perth, one of the crucial things about the decisions on the orientation, the ground size, the capacity et cetera is that that will enable us to go forward with the rest of the planning before we complete the project definition plan stage. It is good that that has been done.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I believe that at the moment a precinct study is being done to determine what will be in the precinct around the stadium, which I think is very important. Some people had visions that there would be a stadium and there would be high-rise apartments all around it. I am not sure that that is going to happen, but I believe that a precinct study is underway now that will take in the whole peninsula area.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes, there is a study for the whole Burswood area. We do not want to build a stadium and then not know what we are going to whack up around it. It has to be planned properly, taking into account access and egress and transport, as well as the types of buildings, open spaces et cetera that will be around it. It will enable us to do other things outside the stadium. The member was with me when we looked at stadiums overseas and we saw that in many cases a lot goes on outside a stadium. It is not just about going to the footy or the rugby or to a special event; it is about everything that goes with that. I might just ask the director general, Ron Alexander, who is one of the co-chairs of the steering committee, whether he wants to make any other points.

**Mr R. Alexander:** Minister Waldron has pretty well summed it up. We have taken the time to do the project definition plan just to make sure that we get all the elements right. Of course, looking at the precinct and tracking people there is a great part of that. When we get people there, we want them to have something to do. The whole precinct is being planned. Transport and all those sorts of things are underway at the moment. The time is being taken to do that. Chappell Lambert Everett Pty Ltd is doing the study.

[10.30 am]

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** It is interesting that the member for South Perth should be asking questions about a committee that he is involved with. However, the minister mentioned various things that he has done. The minister talked about the geological survey of the contract. What if the geological survey finds that it is an unsuitable site? Of course, a major environmental study will have to be done because there was a rubbish tip there. What happens if that study also finds that it is a dangerous site? In other words, if it is unacceptable to build a major stadium there, or if the government will have to spend a phenomenal amount of money to build it, what will the government do?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** First, I will answer as much as I know, and I might pass to the director general for some more detailed information.

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

The member needs to remember that when we looked at the Burswood site, we went into it thoroughly. Lots of geotechnical work has been done in that area in the past for the tunnel, the golf course, Burswood Casino itself and the Mirvac building. Therefore, there is a lot of information about the ground —

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** So the government has information about it now that tells us it is safe and there are no problems. Can the government guarantee that no geological survey will show it is an unstable site.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** If the member lets me finish, I will answer his question. What I am saying is that a lot of that work had been done previously. The steering committee has been through that thoroughly and it shows, as I understand it, that there are no showstoppers that would stop us building a stadium. Further geotechnical work has been done and is being done at the moment. I am very —

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Do we have the minister's guarantee?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** You can never guarantee anything; however, I am very confident. We have Mirvac and other facilities out there operating at the moment.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** What about the environmental issues?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The environmental issues are part of the development of the stadium and they will be looked at and developed, as we always do with any new facility that we build, and as we did, if the member can remember, with the basketball centre, which had environmental issues —

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** But what happens if the government finds that there are major environmental issues? What will the government do?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** In the indicative funding amount of \$700 million and \$300 million, we have allowed for geotechnical work et cetera.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** But the government has not —

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** What is going to happen if there are environmental issues?

**Mr R. Alexander:** Through the minister —

**The CHAIRMAN:** Just before I give you the call, director general, members, for the sake of Hansard, there is no big rush. Take your time; one at a time.

**Mr R. Alexander:** It is a bit like the Perth Glory question; Perth Glory will want to play at the stadium because it is the best place for it to play and it will have all the facilities to do so. It is a little similar to building the casino at Burswood; it went through all those similar issues. The stadium will be built on pylons, so we can do it. We have engineers and other people whose profession is to look at tip sites and work through the issues of those. We cannot guarantee that there will not be an earthquake and we cannot guarantee that a tsunami will not come up the river, but all the indications that we have are that we can build a stadium there. The work is being done on the probabilities of that. Clear work has been done and there is clear evidence that we can build a stadium on the site.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will make one more comment on that. I do not think the opposition criticised me, although I did cop a lot of flak in the paper about going on a junket overseas. However, I think it was smart for us to look overseas. When I went to London I was shown extensively through the Olympic site and O<sub>2</sub> Arena, which is the dome arena, both of which have been built on significant industrial sites with hundreds of years of industrial activity and far more —

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Did they do their testing beforehand instead of making the decision and then doing the testing?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Just let me tell members. There was industrial activity at that site for well over 100 years. I cannot recall exactly some of the stuff that happened there, but it was pretty terrible. Of course they did testing, as we are doing testing. Of course they had previous records, like we have previous records. The member will watch the Olympic Games in July happen on that very site. The O<sub>2</sub> Arena, which was built some years ago, is a facility that got into trouble but is now being managed extremely well and returning profits. There is a new indoor arena for 20 000 people inside that dome, which, once again, is built on an industrial site. We need to remember that obviously there is a need for the stadium in Western Australia. I think that there is no doubt that this is the best site. We have done the work and we are doing the work and it will be a fantastic stadium that I think Western Australians will be proud of well into the future.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** What if asbestos is found there?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** If asbestos is at the site, that will be dealt with.

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** How?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will pass to the director general, because he is on the steering committee that does the technical stuff.

**Mr R. Alexander:** The reason we hired people who are experts on tip sites is that they can handle those exact issues. Many sites have had those issues and have been built on. We have to take the time to remove it and do the work. It is eminently possible to do that. People could argue that any tip site would have asbestos and other poisonous materials. We have looked at all the information about the site. A lot of drilling has been done on that site, so there is a fair body of knowledge about what is there.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** My question is for the minister. If asbestos is found there, which electorate will it be removed to?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am going to be up-front and honest with the member; I am not an expert on asbestos removal. I was involved in it in one town in my area. It will be up to the experts who will make that decision and I will be advised by them. I do not know whether we will find asbestos. I do not know that at this stage. I do not know whether it has been found, but I do not think it has at this stage.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** What will happen to the golf course? The government talks about providing facilities, yet it is taking away a very good facility. What will happen?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Obviously, the decision was made to place the stadium on the northern nine holes of the Burswood golf course. The reason for that is it is seen to be the best location for the stadium, particularly when we look at access to and egress out of the stadium. There will be access to the city via a footbridge, so we will have the great situation as in Melbourne and other places in which people can walk from the city over a bridge to the stadium. Also, that location fits in well with transport such as trains, buses et cetera. Those nine holes of the golf course will go. The initial works are due to start in 2013–14. We have been consulting with the golf people at Burswood right through the process, so they are obviously aware of that. No decision has been made about the other nine holes. It is being looked at as part of the project definition plan and the greater precinct as to whether it will be kept as a nine-hole golf course or a different configuration—it could even be added to, I guess, if people want—or whether it is not viable and the golf course will go. That decision has not been made. However, the first nine holes will go and that is understood. That happens at times when a major stadium such as this is built.

**Mr J.J.M. BOWLER:** My question is on the same line as the previous question. When the casino licence was given, the casino had four commitments to Western Australia—namely, that it pay taxes, establish the gardens as an entry statement into Perth from the airport, build the dome and build the golf course. The dome has gone at a cost to the taxpayers of Western Australia of over half a billion dollars; the casino wriggled its way out of that. Now that the casino will no longer have to meet the cost of maintaining that grass golf course, will either the government seek compensation or the casino build a new public golf course to replace what it will get away with not providing this year for the people of Western Australia?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** As I understand it, Burswood itself does not manage the golf course; that is managed by —

**Mr J.J.M. BOWLER:** It does not manage it, but its money comes from the taxes —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** There is a levy that it pays. That levy goes to the Burswood Park Board that does lots of things, part of which is to manage and maintain the golf course. If the decision is made that the second nine will remain, it will continue to do that; if the second nine does not, obviously it will not. We have not yet looked at any replacement because we are waiting to see what will happen with the decision on the golf course and that has not been finalised as yet.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I hope the Olympic walk is not going to get knocked over. Will it be knocked over?

[10.40 am]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No; I am not aware of that happening, member. I am the Minister for Sport and Recreation and I think the member understands that I will always try to promote sport and have better facilities for it. If the member wants me to go through the facilities we have done since I have been minister, I can run through them all for him; it will take a while.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** No, thanks.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Does the member want me to go through them? I will.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** We have had enough dorothy dixers from here to last the minister today.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have sat here for eight years —

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** The minister has sat on the government side for eight years?

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No; on that other side over there! I sat there for eight years and heard a lot of talk, but we have delivered all of these facilities. The Labor government did do a great job with the athletics stadium, though, and I congratulate it on that; it was well done.

**Mr J.J.M. BOWLER:** I have one final question. Can the minister tell the director general to let me know when that tsunami is coming up the river, so I can book Fraser's to have the best view over Perth!

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** My question relates to two parts of the *Budget Statements* that relate to the Perth major stadium—pages 514 and 542. As the major funding is not listed on the Department of Sport and Recreation's page, does that mean that the department is not responsible for this project? There are two separate amounts. There is \$13 million allocated—the minister pointed out \$8 million, but I see \$13 million—to be spent in 2012–13, and page 542 shows \$375 million listed under a separate agency headed “Perth Major Stadium” under the Minister for Sport and Recreation.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Last year we put aside \$175 million towards the stadium and this year we have put away another \$200 million; therefore, \$375 million has been put away for the major stadium, and that is held under Treasury, because the stadium is still in the planning stages. We will be responsible for the stadium, but obviously it is a whole-of-government project. The Department of Sport and Recreation, through the steering committee and the Office of Strategic Projects, will be responsible for the design and building of the stadium.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** That is confusing. Which body is responsible for the day-to-day management of this project then? Is it the one with the money or the one without the money?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We have a steering committee, which is responsible at the moment. It is headed by Ron Alexander, the Director General of the Department of Sport and Recreation, and is co-chaired by Mr Richard Mann from the Office of Strategic Projects, which comes under Treasury. Therefore, it is between the two agencies. That steering committee is responsible for that stadium planning and transport, and there are representatives who are part of it such as Barry Sargeant from the Burswood Park Board. Then, a lot of groups such as the strategic football group and representatives of other sports will make submissions and be consulted with the planning.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Do they report directly to the minister or are there other agencies in the middle?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They report directly to me.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** So, is the minister responsible for the stadium?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes; I am the minister responsible for the stadium. Obviously, it is a big project, and at the end of the day, cabinet makes the final decisions, as is the normal process in government.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Does any of the funding listed on page 542 of the *Budget Statements* appear in the budget of any other agencies; and, if not, at what stage will the money be transferred to allow, for example, Main Roads to build parking spaces, or the Public Transport Authority and those sorts of agencies to construct their infrastructure, or will the minister run the whole issue out of his office?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Initially, there was an allocation of \$13 million for the planning phase, of which \$5 million was last year; there is a further \$8 million this year. That is for the stage we are going through now with the steering committee developing the project definition plan. The other \$375 million is money we have put away for the stadium.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I understand that; the minister has already told us that. What I am asking is: when other works are done, will the money be transferred to another department or will the minister have control of that money; in other words, will the minister lose control of a lot of the stadium work?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No; I will not lose control. The stadium is being built and I am the minister responsible for that.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** What about roads, parking and those sorts of things—will they still be under the minister's department?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** There is a steering committee, obviously, and the Office of Strategic Projects is represented on that, because the Department of Planning and the Department of Transport are involved. Right now, the Department of Transport is doing a lot of work on all the transport issues, such as the four platforms for the rail et cetera to get people in and out of the area. It is all being done, and, obviously, the Department of Transport plays a huge role there. But overall, the steering committee is responsible, and it reports to me and I report to cabinet.



Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The minister has still not answered the question.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am not quite sure what the member means.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Will the minister be putting money into the budgets of other departments? Will he be allocating it, so that he distributes the money?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will go to Mr Alexander. I am not sure how things work with that funding. I will get the —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** With \$375 million, I think the minister should know.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, member for Collie–Preston.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The money is put away.

**Mr R. Alexander:** Through the minister, I draw the member’s attention to “New Works” at the bottom of page 542 and the amounts for \$700 million and \$300 million listed. The \$300 million will go to Transport and the \$700 million will go to the Department of Sport and Recreation. When there is money to be drawn down for bills —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** That is the question, yes.

**Mr R. Alexander:** — we will then allocate that money to the Office of Strategic Projects or whichever agency will pay the bills. Therefore, the minister will be responsible for that amount of money, but when there is a project outside of what the Department of Sport and Recreation is doing, that money will be transferred to the department that needs to pay those particular bills as they arise.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I have a further question to that, because this is very relevant. Hearing that, is the footbridge included in the estimated cost of \$300 million and the allocated \$102 million?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I can tell the member that the footbridge is included in the \$300 million allocated for transport.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Is that \$100 million for a footbridge?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No. That \$100 million is a notional allocation; that is not the footbridge. The cost of the footbridge is included in the \$300 million. Remember, we are still completing the project definition plan, so the money that has been put away is showing that the government is committed to the project and that it is putting money away for the project. The footbridge will be part of that \$300 million.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** How much will it cost?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have not got the figures for the footbridge as yet. I do not know the cost of the footbridge. I do not know whether it has been finalised, but I do not think it has been finalised yet. It is all part of the project definition plan and that will come back to government with the advice on the size of the stadium, the way it will face, its dimensions et cetera. The steering committee will come back to government with a full project definition plan and the government will then look at that and decide what it accepts and what it will change et cetera, before it goes out to a final tender for the full design.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The problem I have is that the total budget could be anything, because the minister says the project has not been costed properly. Another \$200 million could be needed on top of the money already allocated to that project; therefore, a \$1 billion cap could be \$1.2 billion. We do not know the exact prices when the minister says the limit is \$1 billion. We have a footbridge that has not been costed, so how do we get that final figure? How do we know, if it is being budgeted in the future, that the cost will not be \$1.5 billion?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The figures we are working to are \$700 million for the stadium and \$300 million for transport, and we are working within those figures right now.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** But the minister does not know that, does he? He cannot tell me that.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That is what the project definition plan will show and we will —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The minister cannot tell me that without planning and without costing, and that is the question I am asking.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That is what we are doing; we are doing that plan.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** When will we get those figures and when will a cap be put on?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We are doing the planning properly, unlike what the previous Labor government did with Perth Arena, which blew out —

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** The minister is in government now —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Let us see at the end of the day—be careful; be careful.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, members!

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** It is all right for the minister to say that planning is being done, but the Premier stood in Parliament and said that there would be a footbridge. How can he say that in Parliament, when it has not even been costed? Another thing the Premier said —

**The CHAIRMAN:** Member for Armadale, this is not your opportunity to prosecute a case. You can ask the question of the minister, but you have to allow the minister to answer that question.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I was trying to add to my question.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Preliminary work has been done. We also utilise the very good report done by the Langoulant task force, on which Labor based all of its costs.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Was there a footbridge in that?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No, there was not a footbridge. There were a lot of other things. There was resumption of buildings. We had to buy buildings and resume land. Victoria Park transport issues were also associated with that. It is indicative. We have a lot of information already. One thing I have learned since becoming a minister is that the best way to deliver projects well is to do all the planning first. The Western Australian Institute of Sport facility is another example. Last year \$2 million —

[10.50 am]

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** But this one —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We did the project definition plan. Our initial funding for WAIS allowed us to take a year to do the project definition plan and now the rest of the funding has been announced. That is a good way to do it.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Why did the government not do that for the stadium?

**The CHAIRMAN:** Member for Albany!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The director general wants to make a comment and I would like to pass to him, if I could.

**Mr R. Alexander:** We have done a range of projects before, although none as big as this one. In building the basketball courts, the rugby union headquarters and the state athletic centre, we did proper project definition plans to take everything into account. We took our time to do the project definition plans and we saved \$5.98 million on those facilities. Sometimes we hear when things blow out, but we are fairly careful with our estimates. Prior to the project definition plan, costs are indicative but preliminary work is done. We have done the work to come up with that indication. We are taking a lot of time now to really do the proper studies to work out exactly how much things will cost. Then we will have a very solid number.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Having heard that, it looks as though there is no planning other than some sketch plans of something the government would like to happen. The question is: will the footbridge be started before the stadium, as the Premier said earlier this year, or are there no plans and we could have the biggest botch-up with a stadium open and no bridge to walk across?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member does not quite understand. I am not criticising the member, but that is why we are doing the project definition plan.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The Premier could have been misleading the house.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Member for Collie–Preston! Let the minister answer your question.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** If the member remembers my answer to the member for South Perth's question, he will know that I said that the project definition plan will be completed in the middle of this year. We are doing the plans thoroughly, unlike what the Labor government did with the Perth Arena, which has cost the state \$400 million. We are doing it properly. We have been able to deliver the basketball and rugby stadiums et cetera on time and under budget. The Department of Sport and Recreation has a pretty good record for what it delivers.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** The stadium project is awesome. I am looking forward to it. I am a bit more interested in grassroots sports with this question. I refer the minister to the last dot point on page 510 of the *Budget Statements*, which refers to the fact that socioeconomic issues are often an impediment to participation in local sports. Could the minister please outline the Sport 4 All initiative and what sort of assistance that has provided to low-income families to allow children from low socioeconomic groups to participate in sport?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes, I can. The member referred to our Sport 4 All program, in particular KidSport. This has been a breakthrough in sport and recreation delivery in Western Australia. Through my experience with sport and recreation, I watched governments of both persuasions over many years talk about the benefits of sport and

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

how it is great to have kids play sport, but they did not commit much money to it. In some of my first speeches when I came to this position—I do not mind this going on the record—I said that one of the biggest challenges for me was to convince my cabinet colleagues and the government of the huge value in grassroots sport and, particularly, getting kids involved in sporting clubs. I have an unabated belief in the benefits of belonging to a sporting club. It does not always have to be a sporting club; kids can belong to church groups and scouts and things such as that. To belong to a body is the best thing any young child can do.

I have four daughters, so I spent a bit of time at netball. I would hear mums chatting about Sally not starting netball for another two years because they could not afford to have Sally playing netball and Billy playing football. I talked to the director general and my staff about it. I listened when I went to the country and when I was in the city and I could see that there was a great need. I went to a soccer club in the member for Forrestfield's area. He asked me to go out there and I went and had a look and talked to the coach out there. That club had about 40 kids not paying fees because they could not afford them. To that bloke's great credit—he just about burnt himself out—and to that club's credit, they carried those kids, and I admire it. But in the end, it all falls over because the coach and the club get burnt out. We sat down with the Department of Sport and Recreation and came up with this program and convinced the government to do it.

The KidSport program is about delivering opportunities for young kids from lower socioeconomic or different situations to get into sporting clubs. A subsidy of up to \$200 is offered to pay a child's sporting club fees. That is done through local government. We issue a voucher to a local government, pay the local government and it issues the voucher to the sporting club. The person does not get any money, but gets a voucher to enable them to join a club. The take-up has been huge. The program has been highly successful.

I know that the member for Armadale has been supportive of this. All opposition members have been supportive and I appreciate that. The program is already having a great effect in some areas of the member for Armadale's electorate.

I will provide some statistics for the information of members. These figures could have changed over the past week or so, but 109 local governments are registered for the program, 25 of which are in the metropolitan area and 84 in regional WA. Local governments in regional WA are being grouped and one local government will look after three or four areas. There have been 10 733 vouchers issued to local governments. More than 8 000 have gone out to the community so far, so we have had a huge take-up. The great thing is that the information I am getting back is that many of these children who are joining clubs through this program have never been involved in sporting clubs before.

I have full details here if members have any further questions on the criteria. Quite a few questions are asked about KidSport. One of the questions I was asked recently through the former Leader of the Opposition's office was about a lady who did not have a health care card and thought that she was not eligible. People can be eligible without a health care card. A health care card makes someone eligible, but there are other ways someone can do it. For example, someone can have a schoolteacher, a police officer or someone of that ilk be a referee for them. All the information, which I think has been sent out to all members, is available on this KidSport file.

I might pass to the director general and ask whether he wants to make any further comment on KidSport. The program is administered through the Department of Sport and Recreation. I congratulate the Department of Sport and Recreation on getting this up and running, because this was a brand-new program. I congratulate our local governments. In most cases they have been fantastic. A couple have needed a bit of pushing, but people put pressure on local governments to make them be part of the program. I say thanks to the director general and his staff because the program is working very well.

At the end of this year we will talk to people involved in the different areas of the program to review how it is going. Because it is a new program, a few things might not be working as we expected. In fact, I expect that is the case. We can perhaps do things better in a couple of areas as we go forward. I hope that review will give some guidance on some of the issues happening at the grassroots level that I might not be aware of.

[11.00 am]

**Mr R. Alexander:** We certainly appreciate the investment and that is what we see it as. Most people recognise the value of the program. Some of the interesting statistics on the program show that the cost of putting 600 kids into a club is about equivalent to keeping one child in jail for a year. It is really an investment. To do that and have it recognised is something we have been particularly pleased about. There has been great support from people. We have a partnership with local government. Local government helps to administer the program. People have been turning up at local government offices and we have had instances of mothers crying because their children had never been able to be involved in a sporting club before and were excluded from the community.

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

A lot of these of these children who are excluded from community organisations go on to offend against it. It has been somewhat of a flagship, and we hope it is a breakthrough to this sort of investment in the future. There is a range of aspects other than the \$200 vouchers. There is doing more work with volunteers. There is more work with clubs and improving the technology. There is also Nature Play WA, which is now managed by Griffin Longley, which is a not-for-profit organisation. That is largely trying to get children outdoors, because in unstructured play they learn a lot of their social skills. We think it is a pretty important project to watch really closely.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I just want to add something on the subject of Nature Play. Nature Play is something that I got involved with about three years ago. I helped launch that program. We had advice through Sport and Recreation. What was that chap's name?

**Mr R. Alexander:** Richard Louv.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We got Richard Louv over from America. I am really sold on that program. Griffin Longley is doing a fantastic job. A lot of our schools are picking that up. As I was speaking at the opening night launch, I was thinking about my own kids and the opportunities with nature that I had when I was young that my kids did not get. It really came home to me. Also with Sport 4 All is support for volunteers. That is a big part of it; there is \$8 million to support the volunteers in sport. Members will know that they are vital. That amount of funding will help them with technology to make their job easier with their advice, and making their jobs easier will help maintain our volunteers. Supporting that is our club development officer scheme. I will not go into that. I have taken up enough time.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** This is the only way I can get it in. This generation of children spends more time indoors than any other generation in history. I was recently in the Kimberley—Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, all those areas around there. There is a lack of Sport and Recreation officers getting out there. When I did an inquiry a couple of years ago, I was concerned that not enough Sport and Recreation people were getting out into the communities. I know it has been through a lack of funding. I must say that they do a tremendous job there, and I know that housing is an issue in places such as Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek. Have any funds been put into the budget to look at these very important areas?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** There are a couple of things. As I understand it, there is no additional funding in this budget to expand our officers and regional managers through Western Australia. We have officers right across Western Australia, as the member knows. In the Kimberley the main office is in Broome, and there is also an office in Kununurra, as I understand it. Where we have expanded, what we are doing out there is through our club development officer scheme. The member would understand that, as he was part of that review. We have a good network of country officers. We would always like to have more and more people; I acknowledge that. I think we have over 35 —

**Mr M. Cutler:** There are 44.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We have 44, do we? It has grown even more.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Where are they situated in the Kimberley?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They are spread around. I do not know whether I have a list here of them.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I do not think there are any in Fitzroy or Halls Creek.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will have to defer to get the figures. I do not know that offhand.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Could I get that as a supplementary question?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will supply that information of where they are located through supplementary information.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Could the minister just state exactly what he will provide?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will supply to the member for Albany where our club development officers, of whom there are approximately 44, operate in the state of Western Australia.

[*Supplementary Information No A2.*]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** In the Kimberley in particular, Sport and Recreation fund Garnduwa—not totally —

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** That is just football.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No, it is not.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** If the minister talks to people in the Kimberley, they say that all they are concerned about is football.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They might have a focus on football. Garnduwa also has a very high focus on basketball. I have been out with Garnduwa on many occasions. I have seen them do softball, football and basketball. We

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

fund Garnduwa. I know Dean Holder in Broome works closely with Garnduwa, so we make the best of the other networks that are there. One of the criticisms sometimes in Sport and Recreation in country WA is that different people are doing different hits at different times and not being coordinated. We have tried to coordinate people going into and out of and working within Sport and Recreation. We have groups going up there doing basketball. We have Gerard Neesham's program et cetera. We try to coordinate them as best we can.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** There is \$375 million for a stadium. All this money is being spent —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** So does the member not want the stadium? Let me tell the member: Western Australians want the stadium.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** All I am saying is that we are losing these young kids. All that money has been spent on the WAIS academy and the new netball centre. They are Western Australians too up there, and they are not getting that support and we are just losing them. Sport is so important to Indigenous kids, and we are just not providing it. I do not know what the answer is.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I do not agree with the member. A lot is going on in the Kimberley and the Pilbara through Sport and Recreation and also through the program I have just been talking about.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I know, but when was the last time someone went to Halls Creek on a regular basis to get these kids into programs? I acknowledge that the \$200 for kids is great, but the people are not out there showing the kids what to do. Ricky Grace or someone else will come up for a little while, but there is no steady thing. It is great when they are there. When they go, everyone just disappears.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I know about this, because I used to be a sports development officer in the great southern region, where the member comes from in the wheatbelt, and I also spent a lot of time there through my role with country footballers. As manager of country football, when I came to that position—I am referring to football now—the Pilbara and the Kimberley were not even affiliated. They were out on their own doing nothing. I have to congratulate Garnduwa, because it was through Alan Bishop and Garnduwa that I realised that they had a network. Through country football, we tapped into that network. Through us tapping into that network, the then Football Development Trust tapped into that network. We now have development officers on an ongoing basis in football and other sports—I cannot go through all the sports—who visit regularly. Garnduwa was able to provide that ongoing coaching. The member is right; even as a development officer in the great southern, in the first three years we probably established the program, but I realised after two years that, although it was good for “Tuck” Waldron to be out there handballing footballs and coaching kids et cetera, the very point the member raised was a valid one: I would come and I would go. We then switched focus. It was cricket and football that I did then, and I know that other sports do the same thing. I am very much about educating the young schoolteachers while we are at the school and educating our coaches, so there is that ongoing coaching. I think it is a lot better than it was in the Kimberley and the Pilbara. I know it is in the Kimberley.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** There is still a long way to go.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes, there probably is a long way to go, but it has also come a long way. I think we are doing a lot of good work in that area. We also have some other dedicated programs, but I will not go into all of those now. I can talk to the member about that.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Back to the issue of the major stadium, the relevant page is 514. The Premier is quoted as saying in *The West Australian* of 8 May 2012 that all contracts will be put out to tender if not signed before the March 2013 election. Will the tenders be advertised? Will these tenders cover all contracts necessary for the construction of the stadium? If not, why not, given the Premier's statement?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will have to come back, because the member must understand that we are going through the process now to develop the project —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The point I am trying to make is that grand statements are coming out from this government everywhere, and there is no backup for it. That is my real point while I am following this line.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** In around July or August this year, when the project definition plan has been finalised, that project definition plan will come back to government. Yes, the government has some ideas of what it might like to see and time lines et cetera. The project definition plan is the proper way to proceed when a big facility is being built. It is exactly like we have done with our other facilities. They were built on time and within budget—that is why. When we first announced it, I remember standing in this place talking about it. Some people were critical of the time we were taking for the planning. The reason we are taking that time is to do it properly. When I went overseas, and the member for South Perth —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** That is not my point. My point is that the Premier is making statements and others are making statements all over the place, and they are confusing the whole of Western Australia.

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

[11.10 am]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** All I can tell the member is that when the project definition plan is completed, the government will firm up all those things. I will turn to the chair of the steering committee, the director general.

**Mr R. Alexander:** When the project definition plan is completed, that will be set in stone. A lot of work has been done beforehand. People such as Rob Didcoe, me and others who were involved in facility developments over many years, as well as Richard Mann, who heads up the office of strategic projects, have a lot of experience in other projects. The advice we give is related to when we think the different tenders will be put out and the different people who will be hired to go through different processes. We are not just guessing; we are using previous experience to say, “We believe this will be the time line.” We then do the project definition plan to firm up those time lines. This is not guesswork; this is based on previous hard experience.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The minister is saying that the Premier said that all contracts will be put out to tender before March 2013; it will happen.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have also said that I think it will be fantastic to have field clubs as part of the stadium. I have also said that I think it will be fantastic to have lots of different ticket types and different areas where people can go—different premium seating types. All those things are being looked at. Some of those are wishes and I think a lot of them will happen. When the project definition plan is finalised, Populous will come back to government and say that we can do that and that but it recommends this or that. The cost et cetera is also considered. As minister, I am driving this hard so we can deliver on these things as soon as possible. We have said that we will deliver a stadium by 2018, and we will do that.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I have a further question on the same line. We are going nowhere with the tender issue because, from what I can see, the Premier has jumped the gun again and the minister is quite embarrassed about it.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am not embarrassed at all.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The issues are these. Will the roof be retractable? Has a decision been made about whether the stadium will have one? The Premier confirmed that the government sought a price on a retractable roof. What was the price? Will there be barbecues and seating, as the Premier said? If so, what are the details? Will the area be like a public park with roundabouts and areas for people to have a kick behind the goals? Is the outer area where the Premier said the barbecues will be located envisaged to be within the confines of the stadium, so access is limited only to people who pay the entrance fee, or will it be available to others? Is it separate from the stadium or inside the stadium? Will the outdoor area include a water playground? Just about everything else is included so there may as well be a water playground. Will an amphitheatre be built in there as well? For the amount that it is starting to cost, we may as well have that as well. The other issue relates to access to the area if a concert is to be held there so that people can move in without having to change the whole concept. My last question relates to the fact that the Minister for Tourism said that an extra 10 000 people will come to the stadium each week. Does that mean that the minister has budgeted for those 10 000 people or is he just flying high in the sky?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will do my best to answer the member’s 37 questions! I do not want to be critical of the member; he is a good fellow. He does not understand that this is what a project definition plan is about. We have talked about things we are looking at that could be part of the stadium. For instance, the member mentioned standing areas.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Your planning is still on the back of your hand, and it can change from day to day.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I listened to the member while he asked the questions. When the member for South Perth and I looked at stadiums with the director general, we saw things such as field clubs. We saw barbecue areas. We saw standing room areas. We are looking at all these things, which we put to Populous, which is working with the steering committee on the preparation of the project definition plan. We want those things to be considered. The member needs to remember that the whole focus of this stadium is to deliver a fan-first experience. It is about the people who go there. If we look at modern stadiums today, that is what they are about—delivering that fan-first experience inside and outside the stadium. For instance, the member talked about a roof. When we went to America, we went to two stadiums in Texas that have retractable roofs. The MetLife Stadium in New Jersey, just out of New York—the major stadium where the Jets and the Giants play—does not have a roof, and it is in a cold climate. Does the member know why it does not have a roof? Because it is not the culture of New Yorkers; they play in the open.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Is the minister telling me that the stadium will not have a roof?

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I did not say that. Personally, I do not think there is a great need for a roof. It will be looked at as part of the project definition plan. I do not think there is a great need for a roof in Western Australia. It would be nice to have one but that decision has not been made. We are looking at giving that fan-first experience.

I learnt that it is about offering flexibility within the stadium. That is what this stadium will offer—great flexibility. That is why we are doing the project definition plan. It will analyse all those things that the member was talking about. It will say that we should do this, this and this, and if we do that, that will happen. Then the government will make a decision and we will go out for the final design.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** It still comes back to irresponsible press releases coming out of the minister's cabinet. That is the point I am trying to make. The Premier is saying one thing and the minister is saying another. Who do we believe?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am not saying another thing. Talking of irresponsible press releases, do we have half an hour?

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** The minister mentioned before, as did the director general, that Sport and Recreation has a good record in delivering facilities. The department does have a good record; it is not the problem. The problem is that the Premier has his footprints all over this stadium. He is the problem. He has these grand ambitions. All these things that the member for Collie–Preston mentioned have been mentioned by the Premier.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** A lot of those things mentioned by the Premier were brought up by the director general, the member for South Perth, me and people from the West Coast Eagles, the Fremantle Dockers and the West Australian Football Commission after we went looking at stadiums. When we came back, we gave the Premier and cabinet an overview of what we saw, as we should, to inform them about the things that we think are good things to look at as part of this stadium. Of course people make comments about it. People can do so many different things at various stadiums. I will tell members about one of the biggest things we learnt. If people go to Subiaco Oval on a Sunday and they need to go from one room to another or they are trying to get in and out of the toilets et cetera, it is dangerous in some cases because it is so cramped. The back-of-house stuff is one of the most important things in a stadium. We need to be able to move goods and people et cetera at the back of house. Just about all the modern stadiums have circular areas so that people can get around. That was one of the most important things we noticed in all the different stadiums we visited. Nobody here has talked about that, but it is probably one of the most important things to consider so that we can deliver that fan-first experience, and that is why we are doing this planning properly.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** In the first dot point on page 511 there is a reference to the community sporting and recreation facilities fund looking at investment in sustainable initiatives for sportsgrounds. Obviously, sporting fields are big consumers of water in particular. Can the minister outline whether any work has been done on sustainability measures around water management for sport and recreation facilities?

[11.20 am]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That is a really good question. It is absolutely imperative that we have sports fields and open spaces in Western Australia for our youngsters and older people to play organised sports and recreational sports or just go for a walk. There has been a great build in not only organised sport, but also a lot of recreational sport. We live in a dry state, and from time to time we have issues with water shortages and the watering of ovals. During the drought in Victoria, sporting fields were closed and clubs shut for a time, which is not good. I will talk about different areas. One of the areas is multi-use synthetic surfaces. I have driven the proper research into and use of multi-use synthetic surfaces in the department. A review has taken place. Members of the Department of Sport and Recreation travelled to Melbourne to look at what has been done over there. I understand that about 40 synthetic soccer pitches are operating in Melbourne. We have done the research and feasibility studies to assess the viability of surfaces for our conditions. The synthetic surfaces have improved a great deal as time has gone on.

We developed a decision-making guide that is sent to community sport and recreation clubs et cetera under those guidelines. It sets out synthetic versus turf. We have done a lot of work with our bowling clubs and some of the hockey fields. The guide informs clubs of the cost differences between the alternatives—that is, maintenance costs, replacement costs and management issues. I attended a Bowls Western Australia dinner on Friday night. There is no doubt that the use of synthetic surfaces in bowls has been a huge boost. Two of the big problems are water and having a greenkeeper. We are talking about volunteers employing a greenkeeper. In the end they cannot afford to employ the greenkeeper so the volunteers do it, but they burn out. The greens suffer and in the end the club goes down.

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

What we have found with many country bowling clubs—I have opened quite a few, because there has been an extensive program under this government to deliver synthetic bowling greens—is that there has been an increase in their membership. It has increased in Kalgoorlie. Darkan, in my region, was down to a fairly low membership of 15. It has more than doubled its membership since having the new facility. Since the new greens were installed in Carnarvon, the club is capturing tourists—the grey nomads—which is a great thing. This year we funded a new multi-use synthetic surface for the City of Melville. We will watch very closely its development and the way it is utilised, because it might set the standard for other metropolitan and regional centres that are considering a similar facility. In my electorate, the Shire of Lake Grace has two ovals, which have been affected by drought over the years. The shire is looking at the possibility of doing its number two oval as a synthetic oval, so if there is a drought or they run out of water, at least everyone will have somewhere to play. The school kids who utilise that oval will have somewhere to go.

When we came to government, we increased the community sporting and recreation facilities fund from \$9 million to \$20 million a year. I also changed its structure. Previously, groups could get only one-third from the government; now they can get up to 50 per cent. One of the major criteria is sustainability issues—water saving and power and energy saving. There is an incentive for better water catchments locally and storage facilities. Through those incentives, our clubs—I see it happening a lot—are utilising roofs, putting in tanks and catching water that is saving the general water for other uses. That has been a great success. In February I launched an environmental sustainability package with six participating sports. The resources include the provision of up-to-date information; the identification of opportunities that organisations can take in terms of water use, energy use, waste management, vehicle fleets and carbon footprinting; case studies; and sample policies. That is another initiative in this area. We are very aware of that. The Department of Sport and Recreation is playing a big part, plus it is working closely with local governments. I hold breakfasts with representatives of local government and sporting associations on a regular basis. Sporting association and local government representatives get direct access to me as minister. The director general and his department work with local governments on these very issues. We are getting local governments to do a lot of good work as well.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** I refer to “Recreation Camps Management” on page 513 of the *Budget Statements*. The table of information refers to the cost per bed and average cost per participation. Has the department noticed a decline in the number of schools or groups, particularly from lower socioeconomic areas, using the department’s recreation camps? I preface this with examples. A number of schools in my area, and a number of groups, are no longer taking their students on school camps because they are unable to afford to go to recreational camps, as they have in previous years. I am worried that this is a trend. I am interested in the types of groups and organisations that are utilising the camps and whether there is a trend that a decreasing number of those groups and schools are from lower socioeconomic areas.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** What is the member’s main concern—that lower socioeconomic areas are not getting opportunities?

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** Yes, absolutely. But I am interested to know whether the postcodes of the bookings for recreation camps are now predominantly from the western suburbs or from schools or organisations from areas where there is a higher socioeconomic level. If that is the case, there is a real problem. I have anecdotal evidence from my area that schools are not taking kids on camp or they are reducing the number of nights on camp because of the cost. It is now becoming too expensive for parents to shell out a couple of hundred dollars, or whatever it is, to go on camp. If that is a trend, the minister and the government need to do something about it.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member raised a good point. I will provide an overview and the director general will have more details. Member for Mandurah, I do not think that that is generally the case. There may be a pocket where that is happening. If there is a problem in a specific area, we need to know about it. I am proud of our camps. We have put more money into their maintenance, because they take quite a bit to maintain. I think our camps do a wonderful job. From what I have seen, they are heavily used by school groups and other groups. Sometimes schools themselves elect to not go on camp because of the perceived risks of taking kids on camps. I am not aware of costs being an inhibiting factor. This issue was raised a couple of years ago. We have tried to keep costs as low as we possibly can to ensure that children continue to attend those camps. It is not only children who attend the camps; obviously seniors and other people utilise them. We also cater for groups with disabilities. I am not aware of that as an issue. If it is an issue in a particular area, I need to know about it.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** In terms of the cost per bed, the actual for 2010–11 was \$43 per person. That will go up to \$50 or \$51, which is a 14 per cent increase in the cost of a bed per night to house a —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Is the member saying that that is happening now?

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** Perhaps the department needs to do research on this. I would be interested to see a breakdown of the schools or groups that hire the five recreational camps. If it is heavily weighted towards



Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

schools such as Presbyterian Ladies' College or Methodist Ladies' College—or whatever—that would be an issue.

[11.30 am]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I do not think camp Quaranup will be. I used to run my own camps at Quaranup. I have always done what I can as minister to make sure that our camps are maintained well. We have some challenges at some of them. Camp Quaranup is one. It is a very old camp that I used to utilise. There are weddings and everything at that place; it is fantastic. I know the Ern Halliday, Woodman Point, Point Walter and Bickley camps in Perth. I did a tour of the camps late last year. They all look in pretty good order. They all need improvement in some areas from time to time. We will make sure that we continue to maintain them. I place great importance on these camps, as I am sure does the Department of Sport and Recreation. For further detail, I will hand over to the director general, because I do not have that detail in front of me.

**Mr R. Alexander:** It is about a half-day seminar to get through to the cost of participation. It probably would be best to supply some supplementary information on that. We do what we can to hold down the costs. It is a little like the Sport 4 All program. The exact people we want to get into sporting clubs for the result we get are the same group that we want to use the camps. Quite a range of people use the camps. In fact, the Woodman Point camp in particular is used by people from the Peel district quite a lot. The costs have been held down pretty much. The talk of a 14 per cent increase is mathematics within budgets, if you like, because when maintenance goes into a certain side of it, the cost goes up and it is not necessarily transferred to the participant. Most of the costs are subsidised. We do not get 100 per cent of the money back for some of those. If the member can tell me perhaps one camp that he is more interested in, we can give him a basic indication of the increase in costs over the past three years, for example.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** I would be very happy to receive supplementary information, as the director general has highlighted, perhaps about Point Walter, which is of particular interest to me.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Point Walter or Woodman Point?

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** Both Point Walter and Woodman Point.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Can the minister please detail the supplementary information that he will supply?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** As per the request of the member, we will supply supplementary information relating to the cost for children to attend the camps at Woodman Point and Point Walter and the increases in those costs over the past few years.

[*Supplementary Information No A3.*]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have some extra information for the member for Albany about the community and development officers in the north of the state. I will provide supplementary information, but I can advise him today that we have community and development officers situated at Broome in the north western Kimberley, at Wyndham in the East Kimberley, at Port Hedland and at the Shire of Roebourne.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I refer to the line item "Combat Sports Commission" on page 509 and to the debacle that was the Danny Green fight. I wonder what changes have been made to make this group more accountable for its funding and performance.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will comment briefly; we went through this extensively last year. The Briggs–Green fight was an unfortunate fight that occurred. As the member will remember, we got Geoffrey Miller, QC, to do a review of the Professional Combat Sports Commission's permit approval process. He determined that the decision to grant the permit was justified given the information provided. Out of unfortunate occurrences come good things. If the member remembers rightly, I had the Professional Combat Sports Amendment Bill before the Parliament. I delayed the legislation because the fight threw up some anomalies. The key thing was the definition of the term "sham contest". It was found that the definition was definitely not clear enough. Amendments were made through the parliamentary process to tighten those areas to make sure that we could have better systems in place to try to prevent that situation happening again. That situation is now in place.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Things have changed since then. The fighter has been exonerated for having a sham fight and he got his payment, yet the doctors have been under the microscope. What checks and balances are in place to make sure that that problem does not arise again whereby the doctors allowed a fighter who was crook to go into combat, if you like?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That issue has been addressed in the new legislation. I do not have the legislation with me. The member will remember that we debated that legislation and we went through it very thoroughly. We put in place checks and balances for the doctors, as well as a definition of the term "sham contest" and the requirements for fighters before the fight and for the process. We will never get everything perfect. Something

Chairman; Mr Mick Murray; Mr Terry Waldron; Dr Tony Buti; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John McGrath; Mr Peter Watson; Mr John Bowler; Mr David Templeman

---

might happen in four years and there might be one anomaly that we missed. In hindsight, it happened at the right time. That legislation was virtually what the former sports minister, Hon John Kobelke, brought in. I thought it was good legislation and I supported it in opposition. When the government changed, I reintroduced it, but we added to it because of that situation. There are a lot more checks and balances in place; I just do not have the detail of those with me. We can never say with 100 per cent confidence that nothing else will rear its head in the future. The good thing is that the final regulations are being drafted and they will come into play from 1 July. Previously, we did not have coverage for all the amateur sports; they were just unrepresented, if you like, and unregulated and there were no doctors at all. I congratulate the previous minister, John Kobelke, for the work he did on the legislation; I think he did a good job. We have been able to add to that. I spoke to John about that when we were doing it, because he is quite experienced in that area. I used his experience, which I thought was a smart thing to do.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I refer to the line item for the Clifton Road sports complex grant on page 409 of budget paper No 2. Firstly, has a feasibility study commenced; and, if not, when is it likely to commence? Secondly, what plans are being assessed as part of the feasibility study? Thirdly, is this feasibility study preliminary or detailed? Fourthly, how much is the feasibility study costing or is estimated to cost? Fifthly, given that local sporting clubs are using sea containers, will the minister provide financial assistance to these local groups so that they might build more appropriate temporary facilities?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I think the member has sort of answered his questions with the last one. There is a real need out there and this need has been identified. I have looked at facilities in that area. I have also been out with the member for Armadale to look at the facilities in his area. As minister, I have always made myself available to members of both sides of Parliament to look at different facilities. Quite often that has resulted in facilities being built for members of both sides. Yes; a feasibility study is underway. It is due to be completed in about December this year. There is an urgent need for playing fields in this area. While the feasibility study was being done, we wanted to commit to this project in some way because, depending on what the feasibility study comes up with, we need to do something to give the young people in the rapidly growing south east area access to those playing fields. I travel a lot between Narrogin and my house in Willetton; I go through that area a lot. We have some issues in that area and in the member for Armadale's area. We have recently done some good facilities in the member for Armadale's area, but, like everywhere, there is more to go. I think this is a great need. I am pleased that we are addressing this, but there is more work to do on the feasibility study. I am not aware of the cost. I do not know whether the director general is aware of any further detail on that feasibility study. I will hand over to the director general or his —

[11.40 am]

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Is the other one preliminary or detailed?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have just been advised that of the \$100 000, \$50 000 will come from Planning and \$50 000 from the City of Canning for the feasibility study. We are involving the local government, obviously, as we always do.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Is it preliminary or detailed, minister?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is a feasibility study. As I understand it, it is detailed, but I will get confirmation. I will refer to the director general.

**Mr R. Alexander:** And I will refer to the facilities director, Rob Didcoe.

**Mr R.D. Didcoe:** The short answer is, member, that it will be a detailed feasibility study.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Thank you. It had to go through three people to get that!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I thought it was right, but I did not want to give wrong information to the member for Albany.

**The appropriation was recommended.**