

LOCAL GOVERNMENT — AMALGAMATIONS

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

I have a supplementary question. Given it is now several weeks since the Local Government Advisory Board presented its report and recommendations to the minister, why has the minister delayed his announcement, and is it because the Premier is not happy with its recommendations?

Mr A.J. SIMPSON replied:

The Premier is very happy with its recommendations—we had a long discussion about it—and cabinet as well. It is all going well. Everyone thinks it is just one nice shiny map. Behind that, a lot of work has been done. It has 750 pages. It goes into financial modelling, community of interest and sustainability. A lot of information is in there to do with water structure and temporary names. There is a lot of stuff in that report that has to come out as well. We are working through it. In due course we will have that announcement out.