

SHIRE OF CARNARVON — FASCINE WALL — INVESTIGATION

176. Mr V.A. CATANIA to the Minister for Local Government:

I have a supplementary question. Does the minister agree that the Shire of Carnarvon's oversight of this project has failed the ratepayers of Carnarvon and that the shire president should step down?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

I think a range of questions could be asked about the previous government's tenure and oversight of these projects. They were royalties for regions projects—significant dollars. As the Minister for Regional Development highlighted, this is unfortunately another example of a royalties for regions project that faltered under the former government's tenure. Regarding the shire, there is an authorised inquiry, and that authorised inquiry needs to be carried out and concluded. But in all of these matters in local government, it is a time of reflection for everybody involved in local government about putting the ratepayers first. That is what I think all local governments should do. Any time there is an authorised inquiry or anything of that nature, that should be foremost in the minds of the decision-makers in the local government entity.