

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM — FUNDING

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

I have a supplementary question.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Wanneroo, the member for Mandurah does not need your help. I call you to order for the first time.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: After five years, why will the minister not tell the people of Western Australia how much this process will cost them?

Mr A.J. SIMPSON replied:

I think I have answered the question already. The most important part is that we are delivering good local government for the ratepayers of Western Australia. We will work through the process. Members opposite are always talking about the cost but there are also some savings involved. If we take out the \$6.3 million a year of ratepayers' funds that will not be spent on the mayors, presidents and councillors, those savings alone will go back to the ratepayers to deliver better services to them.