

ALBANY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

**412. Mr D.T. REDMAN to the Minister for Local Government; Culture and the Arts:**

I refer to the Premier's comments on regional projects in Saturday's *The Weekend West*, and I quote —

“The ongoing operational cost for some of those projects is a local responsibility, ...

- (1) Will the minister be pressing for the Albany Entertainment Centre to be handed over to the City of Albany, as was originally planned by the Carpenter government?
- (2) If yes, will the minister confirm that the state will not support the operational costs of this facility?
- (3) If no, will the minister ask the City of Albany to pay the nearly \$1 million annual operational costs that are needed to run the facility?

**The SPEAKER:** Yes, good question, member!

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:**

It is a pity that you cannot ask these questions now, Mr Speaker.

- (1)–(3) First of all, the Albany Entertainment Centre is a very important cultural icon for Albany and the great southern. It is a very important regional centre that provides outstanding cultural activities for the population. It delivers many national, international and state programs. We continue to support the Albany Entertainment Centre —

A government member interjected.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** As was done by the last government—that is very true. It is a facility that we believe needs to continue to develop and deliver for the local community. I, of course, as Minister for Culture and the Arts, am impressed by what is delivered through that centre. As Minister for Culture and the Arts, I will continue to advocate for its operation. I will continue to talk to the local government about the ongoing role that it can play in supporting what is delivered through that centre. There are many good examples of local governments doing tremendous things to support culture and the arts through centres such as the Albany Entertainment Centre, including, of course, my very good friend the member for Kalgoorlie, who has been undermined by the hyenas of the National Party. He has advocated very, very strongly, but he has been undermined —

**Mr S.K. L'Estrange:** He won the seat.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** I know he won the seat. He won the seat despite the undermining by the hyenas known as the National Party because we know what they were going around saying.

**Mr S.K. L'Estrange:** They did hold the seat, so he took it off them.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** I know, and what a magnificent achievement that was! He is one of the most affable members I have seen in the time I have been in this Parliament.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, look at the time; it is cutting into your lunch hour.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** Yes. I am just supporting the member for Kalgoorlie. I will continue to work with the local government there. The member for Warren–Blackwood needs to understand that there is already an allocation to ensure that that centre continues to deliver the quality cultural product that it deserves to deliver to the people of the great southern region of Western Australia. They are a wonderful community.