

Chairman; Mr Peter Watson; Mr Terry Waldron; Mr John McGrath; Ms Andrea Mitchell; Dr Tony Buti; Mr  
Chris Hatton; Mr Mick Murray

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**Division 58: Sport and Recreation, \$101 163 000 —**

Ms L.L. Baker, Chairman.

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

Mr G. Brimage, Acting Director General.

Mr A. Watt, Director, Business Management.

Mr R. Thomson, Acting Manager, Facilities Development.

Mr R. Hurst, Project Director, New Perth Major Stadium.

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

**The CHAIRMAN:** The 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 the 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, 30 August 2013. 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:** The first question will be from the member for Albany.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I refer to the sixth dot point on page 691 of budget paper No 2 about the new stadium. Can the minister explain the plans that have been made for Patersons Stadium, or Subiaco Oval, and its tenant, the WA Football Commission?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes, I can explain the current stage of the stadium development. We made a conscious decision way back when we started the planning of the stadium that we wanted to concentrate solely on the stadium to start with. We wanted to make sure we got all the planning for such a big facility right, and we made the statement that we would not be looking at what would happen to Subi until we actually started the stadium. We are now at that point. Some background work has been done, but no decision has yet been made about what will happen at Subiaco Oval. There are a number of factors here. Obviously the West Australian Football Commission and the City of Subiaco have some thoughts around what should happen there. And of course the West Coast Eagles are currently located at Subiaco Oval, but at the moment they are looking at other opportunities. All those things have to be taken into account, but now that we have started the preconstruction works on the stadium, it is our intent with some of the background work that is being done to start focusing on that over the next 12 months.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** The WA Football Commission is a breeding ground for the Australian Football League. Does the minister think that the commissions are being pushed into the background and that everything is being put towards the stadium? Does the minister think that the grassroots level, such as the football commissions that look after the breeding ground of the AFL, is being ignored and that he is putting the cart before the horse?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No; in fact, it is probably the opposite since the planning stage of the stadium. Work had already been done on the proposed stadium at Subiaco when we came into government. There had, unfortunately, been some issues between football and those organising the stadium at that stage. I wanted to make sure that Australian Rules football would be the major tenant at the new Perth stadium. I wanted to make sure that we took football with us. We did not want battlelines over who might get what et cetera. We therefore formed a joint football working group and that group has been advising the steering committee on the stadium. That sporting group of people had come to us and asked us about Subiaco. They know the program that we are undertaking and we have involved them right the way through. Even when we looked at possible stadiums, we took representatives from the commission, from Fremantle Dockers and from West Coast Eagles with us. It has

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been a terrific relationship. There will be times, I am sure, when the government and football will have disagreements on certain aspects, but with the relationships we have set up I am quite confident that we will be able to work through those.

Having worked at the football commission managing country football for about 10 years and having been a development officer in football and cricket in the country, I am well aware of the huge importance of this stadium to football. As the member knows, the moneys derived from Subiaco Oval and Subiaco Oval itself are driving factors, particularly for country football where I came from. But it is the same for amateur football: we want to make sure that there is still a flow-through and the footy commission has a focus on that.

I have to say I was a little perturbed the other day when I read some comments by some people in the WAFL that they wanted to go to the AFL arrangement and have development done directly to them. At this stage—not that it is my decision—I do not think that is in the best interests of country footy. I am confident that football has been kept in the loop. In fact, I met with football representatives a couple of time last week and we have kept them well advised.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I think it is a good thing that we started with the stadium because, obviously, a lot of questions are going to be asked. Can the minister inform the committee about the leasehold at Subiaco Oval? It is obviously crown land but it is vested in the City of Subiaco.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes, and I will clarify this. It is vested in the City of Subiaco, and football has a 99-year lease there. That is why I mention that the decision about what happens with Subiaco needs to be a joint decision between government, football, the City of Subiaco and of course the community. One of the things we have done extremely well, I think, is involve the community, which I will not go into now. But we have involved the community in the whole planning process and we have sought community feedback, which goes along with our fan-first philosophy. That will probably come up a bit later. I will not waste time on that now but I am happy to come back to that.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I am wondering about the cost involved with Subiaco Oval. I have been advised that the cost of fixing the facilities for the football commission to stay there could be between \$2 million and \$3 million. Has that been taken into account in your big project for the new stadium?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I acknowledge that as it is now 2013 and the new stadium opens in 2018, there are four AFL seasons to go at Subiaco Oval. The football codes themselves have a responsibility to maintain Subiaco Oval and we will always work with them. They are looking at some issues surrounding the video boards. The videos there are outdated.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** It is \$1 million for each one.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They have not come to us on that officially that I know of. They have advised that they may be coming to us.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** They have been to the minister.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They have indicated. Have we got a formal application? We have got a formal application, and that will be considered, but I understand the needs there. Just so that the member knows, when I first came into this portfolio, I was worried about Subiaco Oval and I got a construction audit, a safety audit, done of Subiaco Oval to make sure it was structurally sound. The structural audit did show that it is structurally sound, albeit there are some safety issues there that I do worry about.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Actually I think the Eagles cannot wait to go to the new stadium; they can't win at this one!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That is a fair point!

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** My question is on the stadium and the commission and follows on from the member for Albany's question. Does the minister foresee the possibility that the football commission would one day be headquartered at the new stadium; or is that not something that he has considered at the moment?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am probably a little doubtful of the commission being headquartered there, but those things have not been addressed yet. I guess it is always a possibility. There may be other options. If we maintain Subiaco Oval, that could be one of those options, and we could have a centre of excellence for football and that type of thing. If the Eagles or the Dockers went somewhere else, the football commission might then look to another opportunity. A couple have been talked about, but they have been only talked about so I will not go through them here.

**Ms A.R. MITCHELL:** I refer to the last dot point on page 691 of budget paper No 2 under "Significant Issues Impacting the Agency". I refer to the high performance service centre for the Western Australian Institute of Sport. How will this centre make a difference to our aspiring and elite athletes?

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**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Thanks very much, member. This question of course refers to the new building for the Western Australian Institute of Sport. The member may remember that the institute has been lobbying for some years about its building. The institute has done a wonderful job, and I pay tribute to the late Wally Foreman, who helped set it up. It has operated in a building that really is out of date. For instance, access to the gym for disabled athletes is only stairs, so they have to be carried down—those types of things. Steve Hooker was having his ice baths in rubbish bins on the edge of a pool area at Challenge Stadium. Therefore, something definitely needed to be done. The Premier and I went to the institute about two years ago and inspected it; hence we made the decision to go ahead with a new state-of-the-art facility for WAIS. There is an allocation of \$33 million for planning and construction of that facility. I will not take up too much time but I will let the member know what will be in the facility, because one of the problems was having appropriate areas for the athletes and also for sports science. I will say that WAIS has kicked above its weight, but I want to make sure with this new facility that it does not go soft, because it will have a lovely facility. It will include a new strength and conditioning facility; sports science testing environments; recovery and rehabilitation facilities, which are sadly lacking at the moment; and access to provisions for disabled and injured athletes. We saw how big the last Paralympics were. We did very well and I note that a young girl, Katherine Downie, came second for a silver medal. There will be also modern laboratories at WAIS for research and athletic testing. The member for Armadale, who is quite big in that area, would understand the need for that. There will be a multipurpose training and testing area; an indoor runway for pole vaulting; hydrotherapy; staff accommodation; and meeting and training rooms. The preconstruction works are underway now, the major works will hopefully commence in September 2013, and the staged handover will take place in late 2014.

I make the point that the facility will not be fully finished until the beginning of 2015, but we are planning to stage the handover to make sure we can get athletes in there training in the cycle for the Olympic Games, so that is planned as part of it. I take the opportunity to say that when I went there the other day with the Premier, the athlete we were chatting to about the problems was Kimberley Mickle. It has been wonderful this week that she came out and talked about some of her struggles. She did not make the final at the Olympics but she has really worked hard. The coaches there are outstanding. There are obviously lots of other athletes: Steve Hooker, Blair Evans, Lauren Mitchell and Alana Nicholls in kayaking, and a host of others. I think we do kick well above our weight in Western Australia. This facility will be a really big boost to elite sport and I just say that WAIS is doing a terrific job.

[10.15 am]

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I refer to “Industry Leadership and Infrastructure Development” at the bottom of page 690 of the *Budget Statements*. The “Back on Track” WA state trail bike strategy seems to have slipped off the agenda and I cannot find it anywhere, so I have to refer to it under the “Industry Leadership and Infrastructure Development” heading. Is the minister aware how many people have died or been seriously injured in off-road motorcycle accidents under his tenure?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The state trail bike strategy and the ongoing issues with it are being handled across government. I have taken a lead role because I want to try to improve the situation. I make the point that I am aware that we have had deaths and injuries, and it is a real concern. I say right from the start that when we implement this strategy, although it will help, it will not stop accidents happening. People will still have to take personal responsibility and care. Even if we have this strategy and extra areas to ride in et cetera, I know that people tear through the bush in the forest country near my electorate quite regularly—I do not know about the member’s electorate around Collie. My initial focus has been to try to improve the riding areas, which we have done at Pinjar and Gnangara, where, together with the Department of Environment and Conservation, we upgraded those facilities. We are now looking at making a similar effort with the Flint block, just off Brookton Highway. Nick Sloan from my department was up there looking at it only a couple of weeks ago with Steve Pretzel. I do not mind admitting that the issue of the registration of bikes has gone on a bit and there was a recommendation to get all the bikes registered. An issue we have had is that there was some pushback on that initially; however, we went back to the issue and the Department of Transport got back to us. Some of the figures espousing the strategy have not really added up, so the Department of Transport is doing more work on them and it will come back to us as soon as it possibly can. We are trying to improve more riding areas and there will, hopefully, be an announcement in a short while.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** One part of my question was about how many people had been killed under the minister’s watch. The other part of my question is: where in the budget is the funding the minister is talking about? I cannot see it.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member will not see the funding in the budget. We already have a fund through local government that I am hopeful we will be able to use to help with the upgrading of the Flint block.

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**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I have difficulty understanding how the minister can take a lead role on this issue without funding being made available through his office, and him then handballing the matter to local government authorities, which is my understanding of the issue.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** This issue is across government; involved are the Department of Local Government, the Department of Environment Regulation, obviously the Department of Sport and Recreation, police and the Department of Transport. I think they are the five areas; there may be one other.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Someone has to get some funding out there, otherwise things will not happen. The related report was brought down in 2007. Surely, some basic funding would have been put in the budget. I have asked this question for the last four years, as the minister is well aware.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We have had some funding with upgrades to the Gngangara and Pinjar blocks, and I am sure the member will hear an announcement soon about the Flint block. The licensing registration of bikes is a real issue and I do not mind admitting that; it has been a problem. It is no good rushing in doing that.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The issue has been around since 2007; the minister is certainly not rushing!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** More work is being done right at the moment. The government will not rush in and do that unless it will work. If we have the registration and implement it, it will certainly help and I would like to see it happen. The member talked about loss of life and injuries, which we are all very, very sad to hear about, but it will not change all of that. There will still need to be education in those areas, because people will ride motorbikes wherever they want to go. My initial aim is to get more riding areas so people have places to go that are a lot safer than where they currently ride.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** In any other workplace, such as the mining industry, there is hue and cry over one death and it becomes front-page news. Yet, this minister has not been on the job when there are six to seven deaths a year. This year I think there has been something like five off-road deaths, without mentioning the number of broken legs that I know of. I have been keeping an eye on this and there have been five or six deaths this year. The minister cannot just keep saying he will do something; it is time that something is put in the budget and something is done.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Regarding the figures the member quoted, he has to realise that a lot of those deaths and injuries actually took place on normal roads.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I am talking about off roads. These injuries occurred totally off road.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** We have the stats for them.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am happy to have a look at those statistics, but I know that a lot of accidents and deaths have happened on normal roads as well.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Think about Lancelin. Last week in Collie four kids crashed into the front of a ute because they were on dual-use roads. If we had dedicated bike trials, we would not have half of those accidents with the car and bike mix. That is the point I am trying to make.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I agree with the member about dedicated riding areas and that is what we have been doing. I know that some local governments also have some areas. The problem with some of the areas is that they are not well set up for safety, so people ride through those areas in all directions. Has the member been out to Pinjar and Gngangara?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Yes, and I have obviously met with the industry as well on that issue with the knowledge of the Minister for Local Government, Tony Simpson, the member for Darling Range.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member would have seen that there were different areas for different levels of riding. There are directions indicated.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** But they have run out of money; that is the point we are coming to.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We cannot do everything at once.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Member for Gosnells.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Armadale.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member has changed!

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** It is southern districts, anyway!

I refer to the Perth rectangular stadium development on page 693 of the *Budget Statements*. I note that \$95 million has been allocated as an estimated total cost for the stadium. Does that include a one-off payment of

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\$5 million to the City of Vincent; and if so, would the minister then acknowledge that this is a considerable blow-out, because he announced in 2010 that the stadium would cost \$83 million? Further, does that \$95 million include \$400 000 compensation paid to Perth Glory for reduced capacity, loss of advertising, displaced members and reduced corporate hospitality? Could the minister please break down this compensation payment into the four areas of compensation?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** There are a couple of things. The budget was originally around \$83 million. The member may remember that we were approached by the rugby and soccer bodies about the need for extra facilities for corporates—I am not sure exactly when that was. Cabinet then made a decision to increase the budget to \$95 million so we could include that. As I understand it, the \$5 million the member refers to was outside the facility funding; it was a one-off payment. That funding has been used for the Beatty Park facility upgrade.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Is that \$5 million within the \$95 million, or is it different?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** As I understand it, it was outside. It was not part of the capital for the stadium; it was a one-off payment from government to the City of Vincent and it was mainly used for Beatty Park. I add that we also put in another \$2 million to the Beatty Park upgrade and that has been a good thing for that council and Western Australia.

There was \$400 000 paid in compensation to Perth Glory, which came out of the \$95 million budget. That was paid in agreement with Alia Holdings.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Can the minister provide a breakdown of the compensation payments in the four areas?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No, I do not have a breakdown of that; I do not know whether we can provide it. It was based on the disruption to Perth Glory and its corporates. I might have a bit of detail here.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Would the minister be able to take that question on notice and provide the detail?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am not sure. I do not have what money was put to what because it was an overall figure. What was taken into account, and this was done in agreement, was loss of advertising, reduced corporate areas, reduced numbers and games, reduced capacity, displacement of members and general interruptions to operations. I think it was a pretty fair outcome.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Further to that, I really feel that the minister should provide us with a detailed compensation breakdown and how it was arrived at in the various areas the minister mentioned. Was that compensation payment by match payment or a combination; and, how were match payments calculated, if they were paid?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I understand they were based on the number of games that were displaced there. I do not have the figures about how that was done, but it was done in negotiation between the two parties.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Will the minister provide a detailed compensation breakdown? It is state money.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will provide what I can.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** This is state money and surely we have a right to know how that compensation was calculated.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have just said that I will provide as much detail as I possibly can.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Can we just clarify? Has the minister agreed to provide some supplementary information?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will provide supplementary information of more detail about the compensation payment of \$400 000 paid to Perth Glory and as much of the breakup as I possibly can.

[*Supplementary Information No A3.*]

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** What benefits will Perth Glory receive from the redevelopment of the nib Stadium; and, were the benefits that Perth Glory will receive taken into consideration when the compensation was paid? Further, which members of Parliament were involved in negotiations about the Perth Glory compensation claim? The minister opened the upgraded nib Stadium on 23 March this year, but in the costings on page 693 of the *Budget Statements* there is an estimated expenditure of \$5.135 million for 2013–14. What is that amount for?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will answer the last part of the question first. I might need some advice, but I think that funding might be for the eastern stand and the southern stand. I add that the southern stand was not included in the original budget, but because we managed the project well we had funding to enable us to do that as an extra, together with the new seating of the northern bowl in front of the shed. We came well under budget, so it has been a well-managed project. Right at this moment we are doing the pitch replacement and the northern seating is going in as part of that. I imagine that that \$5 million is for that and for any other finishing off that may well be done. I will ask Rob to add information about who was in charge of this project.

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**Mr R. Thomson:** As the minister mentioned, the final commitment contains the cost of the pitch replacement and also finalised cash flows from the main redevelopment project as it reaches its end, and the seating of the northern bowl. It is really going to the last components of the project, which we anticipate will be finished in around mid-October.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The negotiations about the compensation were carried out by the Department of Sport and Recreation on behalf of the government.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Were no members of Parliament involved?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** What about the other part?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I still have not answered the other part of the question; I am trying to work through it. The other part of the question was about the benefits for Perth Glory. There are lots of benefits for Perth Glory, there are lots of benefits for RugbyWA, and, hopefully, there will be benefits for Rugby League as well; in fact, there already are because there will be four games of Rugby League there next year. We have had only one this year and I think there will be four NRL games. Hopefully, at some stage we may get the West Coast Pirates in and I certainly support that.

[10.30 am]

One of the things that made me drive the redevelopment of nib Stadium is that I went to fixtures there, and the conditions for the fans were abysmal, particularly when it was wet. The outer eastern stand and the southern stand were temporary stands, and there was no cover, and Perth Glory members sat there; they did not all sit around in the Fred Book stand. It was not up to standard for the elite sport that was being played there. Therefore government made the decision for the redevelopment. So the first advantage is that Perth Glory has better facilities for the public and for its members. I have mentioned that in that new eastern stand, there are 48 boxes and 420 corporate seats that Perth Glory now has available to sell that it never had before. So there is a huge advantage there. There is also a barbecue terrace behind that stand, which is another thing that it can offer. Perth Glory used to have to pay every week for the screen and for the public address system. We now have two of the best video screens in there, and a new PA system, and Perth Glory no longer has to meet that cost.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Were those benefits taken into consideration when the compensation was negotiated?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Overall, that would have been taken into account, because, remember, the government spent this money. This money enables Perth Glory, Western Force and rugby, et cetera, to actually earn more for their sport. So it would have been taken into account.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** The minister may want to take this on notice. Could the minister provide the Perth Glory attendance numbers on the following dates: 21 October 2012, 3 November 2012, 18 November 2012, 24 November 2012, 14 December 2012, 5 January 2013, 19 January 2013, 25 January 2013, 16 February 2013, 2 March 2013 and 17 March 2013?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will just rattle them off for you!

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Yes, I thought so!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They are on the FFA website, so the member can get them for himself.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I would like the minister to provide them, thank you.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That probably should come from VenuesWest. I am happy to provide the figures, but apparently they are all on the website, so the member can get them.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** The website is the website, minister. I want an official answer that will be incorporated in *Hansard*.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** There is method to his madness!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I would have thought the member would be able to print out the website! I can give the member the figures that Perth Glory provides to me. I want to make a comment about that, though, because the member has raised the issue. Both rugby and Glory have said to me ever since I have been sports minister that if only they had a decent stadium, they would be able to attract more people. That is what they wanted. The state has invested \$95 million in that facility, and it is a fantastic facility. The other thing is that it is probably one of the best examples of getting a bigger bang for your buck that we can get in a sports facility.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Stop blowing your trumpet and get down to the nitty gritty!

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**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member for Armadale asked a question about the crowds. When the member gets those figures, he needs to remember that when the stands were first opened, there were one or two games for which they gave away free tickets to kids, et cetera, and I applauded them for that, because I thought that was a good decision. They now have the stadium. But they still need to win, though, because the one thing I have learnt in sport is that successful clubs attract supporters. So they need to be successful on the field, and that is a challenge for all our sports.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** It never helps Claremont, though!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is all right; the member should not worry about the Tigers! Sometimes it is the quality of the crowd, member!

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Maybe it is the standard of the umpiring!

**The CHAIRMAN:** Minister, may I just confirm the supplementary information that you have agreed to provide, please.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** We will provide the figures for those dates that were put by the member. But we will be relying on Perth Glory to supply them to us.

*[Supplementary Information No A4.]*

**Mr C.D. HATTON:** I refer to the first dot point under “Significant Issues Impacting the Agency” on page 691. I thank the minister for his recent advice concerning the uptake of the KidSport program in my electorate. Can the minister outline how the Sports for All initiative, and in particular the KidSport component, has assisted low-income families to get their children involved in club-based sport and recreation activities?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes, I can. The Sports for All program, and in particular the KidSport component, which the member is asking about, came about because I have daughters who play netball, and I would go to junior sport and I would hear mums and dads talk about why little Sally was not playing netball this year, and they would say they are going to start her in two years’ time, because Billy is playing soccer and Johnny is also playing sport, and they cannot afford it all. I went to Forrestfield soccer club, and they had a really big problem, because hundreds of kids were coming in, but their parents could not afford to pay the subs. But the coach out there would not turn the kids away, and in the end it burnt that coach out and he left, which is a real shame for the sport. But it identified that we needed to do something. So with the support of the Department of Sport and Recreation, particularly Ron Alexander, and with the support of the government, we were able to instigate the Sports for All program, and in particular the KidSport program. That is available for young kids from low socioeconomic areas. The parents need to have a pension card or a referee to qualify to get the payment. I have to thank local government, because it is done through local government. The family and the child do not see the money. The parent goes to the local government with a voucher, and the money then goes to the club. So it is a really good system. The aim of this was to make sure that we had kids in clubs. I think the member for Armadale, the member for Albany and the member for Collie–Preston would understand the importance of sporting clubs. I have had a background in sporting clubs all my life. I know how sporting clubs can help to shape people.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I think the top picker out of all this is the member for Albany!

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** It is great, minister! Even though this is a dorothy dixer, I agree with the minister!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** One of the driving factors was not just sport. It was about the issues that we have in our communities. In selling this to my government to get the funding, those were the points that I wanted to make clear. I do not know how many hundreds of times I have said this since I have been sports minister, but the longer I am involved in sport, I see day in and day out the contribution that sport makes to individuals, to families and to communities. This is a great way of getting more kids involved. I will run through a few statistics, because they are outstanding. At this stage, around 27 707 vouchers have been issued, and 22 201 children in Western Australia between the ages of five and 18 are engaged in this program. That is a lot of children. It is being delivered through 126 local governments. Overall, about 48 per cent or 49 per cent of those children have never been involved in a sporting club before. I think that is the key to this program.

I want to tell a quick story. When I was at Willetton cricket club there were two young lads who came from a pretty rough area and who had messed up a bit and the club wanted to get rid of them. I stuck up for those kids and said, “Let’s give them another chance.” One guy stayed there for two years. The other guy went on to become vice-captain of the club. We got him an apprenticeship, and he became a cabinet maker, I think it was, or a carpenter, and he has done very well in life. About four years ago, I was talking to him, and he told me a few things that I had not realised. At that time, this boy was living with his mother and his disabled sister, by themselves, in Langford, and the father used to come around and belt them up. This kid came from a terrible

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background. But he never let any of us know. I certainly did not know at the time I kept him at the club. He said to me later that had we not kept him at that cricket club, he probably would have ended up in jail. That is just an example of what I think sporting clubs can do. That is not the case all the time, and sporting clubs are not the be all and end all, but they certainly play a big role. That is why I love this program.

Just to mention a couple of interesting things, there has been an 18 per cent take-up of Indigenous youngsters in this program. These figures on Indigenous youngsters are really important. I have always thought, coming from the country and having played a lot of football and cricket with my Noongar mates, that sporting clubs are one of the best things that we can do to help our Indigenous people, particularly with the reconciliation. About 5 037 vouchers have been taken up by 4 115 Indigenous children, and over 53 per cent of those children have not been involved in a sporting club before. So if we are able to help some of those families, that is a good thing.

The member for Armadale was given his figures last week, but about 821 children in his electorate are participating in this program. That is really important for his area, along with the other things that we are doing, which the member might ask me about later. The member for Collie–Preston has 575, which is fantastic; the member for Albany has 994, which is really good; the member for Balcatta has 189; the member for Kingsley, 245; the member for Morley, 159; and the member for South Perth, 69. It is a great program. I have had great support for this program from across the Parliament, and I appreciate the ongoing support.

We were committed to this program before the last election, and we will continue to run this program and also to monitor it to make sure that we are still hitting the mark, and I would appreciate any feedback at any time.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I refer to page 691, the sixth dot point under “Significant Issues Impacting the Agency”, which refers to achieving a multi-use stadium. How much compensation was paid to the golf club as a result of the new Perth stadium and buying out the leases in that area?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will get some advice. Compensation was paid, but I am told that figure is commercial-in-confidence.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** So government money is being used, but it is commercial-in-confidence?

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** Your government used to do the same thing!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is not in this division. It was done through VenuesWest.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** This is absurd! Government money is being used to pay compensation, and we are not allowed to know! That is obscene!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It was done through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. Compensation was paid, which I think was fair enough, because a business was being run there. The state government made the decision to build the stadium there. That obviously affected that operation, and an agreement was come to between the two bodies. I think that is quite fit and proper.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** But where is the accountability?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Minister, I find it a bit difficult, because for the business person who was running the restaurant that was on that site, the compensation was made public. I beg to differ on why that was made public and the other one cannot be made public.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I was not aware that it was made public.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I read it in *The West Australian*. I cannot remember what the exact figure was but I think it was \$5 million.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I do not think that is right. I am happy to clarify it later, but I do not think it was made public.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** The minister will chase it up, no doubt.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes. I will let the member know personally.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I refer to page 689, the second last line under “Spending Changes”, which reads “Hockey Field University of Western Australia Mount Claremont”. In 2012–13, \$500 000 was allocated for a new hockey field for that club. There is a club in my electorate called Wesley South Perth Hockey Club. That club is celebrating its eightieth anniversary this week. I am sure the minister is aware of that club.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am aware of the club but I was not aware that it was celebrating its eightieth anniversary this week.



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**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** The juniors at that club play at Richardson Park, which has a grass surface. The trend for hockey clubs is towards a synthetic surface, because that is what the kids will end up playing on when they become elite hockey players. Is the minister aware of any conversation between WASP Hockey and his department regarding funding or assistance for that club to get a synthetic playing field in South Perth?

[10.45 am]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I know that the department and Hockey WA did some work on fields and the needs of fields in the metropolitan area, so I will flick to Mr Thomson in a moment and he might be able to give the member some more information on that. Through our community sport and recreation facilities fund, we have done a number of upgrades to hockey surfaces et cetera. I opened one in Geraldton, and I know that the hockey surface in Gnowangerup is multipurpose and they play tennis on it in the summer, which is a really good idea. Hockey is a growing sport. Obviously, we would look at any proposals on their merits. We have limitations and the CSRFF can do only so much, but that would be looked at if they wanted to take it further. I will throw to Rob Thomson.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** Just before the minister throws to Mr Thomson, the people at Wesley South Perth Hockey Club were told that the department was looking more at putting these synthetic fields further out into the suburbs and they thought that South Perth was a bit too central.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Yes; it is inner city.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** Yes. My problem is that South Perth is a strong, important hockey area. The senior teams from WASP use the Curtin hockey fields, but the juniors cannot use them.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member is pretty fortunate that he has those Curtin facilities.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** We are very lucky. I would not like to see us ruled out.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** As the member knows, a process is gone through with the CSRFF. If someone applies for funding, the funding application is rated by the sport, by local government and also by the department, and an independent group makes the final decision. The application would be considered on its merits. There have been a lot of calls in the outer metropolitan areas where the population has been growing very fast and sometimes our sporting facilities have not kept up with population growth. We have identified that. Obviously, when there is a real need, that would be taken into account, but I will not comment specifically because I am not involved in that process. I will hand over to Rob Thomson from the department.

**Mr R. Thomson:** I thank the member for the question. There have been conversations with both the South Perth and Victoria Park clubs about developing synthetics. The issue at Richardson Park is that it is used for A-grade cricket during the summer, so developing a hockey-only facility there is problematic because of the cricket. In our conversations with those clubs, we have tried to work together with the local authorities in the area to identify a suitable location that would meet the needs of those clubs. It is bringing the clubs together similar to the situation at Shenton College; there are three clubs based there and that creates the high usage that is needed to maintain those synthetic playing surfaces. At the same time, we are doing some master planning work with Hockey WA to look at the future of the hockey stadium and what that entails. We have also done a strategic facilities plan for hockey, identifying turfs that would be needed in those outer growth areas. We are trying to work very proactively with those clubs and local authorities to make sure that the provision of hockey surfaces can be met into the future.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The local government obviously needs to be involved as well.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Has the minister had any talks with the Minister for Planning and developers about putting in sporting grounds instead of passive recreation, as is done now, so that when developers develop something, they put in sporting grounds not just passive recreation whereby people can walk around a lake that is about three metres wide?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** This issue has been raised on a number of occasions. We have done planning on that. It is always a challenge for us to find suitable space for sporting fields. As I have mentioned, when new suburbs are developed in the outer metropolitan area, the 10 per cent that is recreation land is sometimes on the worst land. The developers will develop an old creek as recreation —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Kids get fit jumping the fence trying to get the footy back.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** There needs to be a bit of balance, because a bit of bush is pretty handy for kids. One thing that has been really successful is our Nature Play WA project. It is important to have natural areas. The other day I was walking in some bush near the footy oval in Willetton, where junior footy is played on Saturday mornings, and there must have been 20 kids playing in the bush. I think that is important as well. But the

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member is right; Minister Day is very much aware of it. The Department of Sport and Recreation uses every opportunity at conferences et cetera to emphasise the need for that planning. I will refer to Graham Brimage, who is our acting director general, because a collaborative state public parkland strategy was done to identify and address those issues the member has raised.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** One of the main problems is that they are using school ovals now and the school ovals are wearing out.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I think we need to use school ovals and schools need to use local government ovals. We need to do a lot more of that. As our population grows, we will have to get smarter at using our facilities. A lot of school ovals are hardly ever used on weekends and a lot of local government grounds do not get used. The member would know that, in country WA, it depends very much on the school principal and the local government.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** There are insurance issues, minister.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** That is what some of the headmasters in my area are saying; they cannot get insurance. The kids still go there and play.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Of course they do. For instance, in my home town of Kojonup, the school has never had an oval.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** It is a good place to drive through!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It has never had an oval so it utilises the town oval. There is an agreement between the Department of Education and the town. I think that is fantastic in lots of areas where there are school ovals and local ovals. I know that in Willetton, where I have a house, they interchange —

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Can we have an answer without the minister's personal experiences coming through?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Sometimes it just makes the point, member.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** We just want to get to the nitty-gritty and ask a lot more questions.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I was going to get to the member's Olympics in a moment, but he has cut me short.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I have heard the minister's stories so many times.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will let Graham comment.

**Mr G. Brimage:** Good early work has been done in the last three years on a state parkland strategy. Part of that involved identifying the full spectrum of the adequacy of the provision of public open space. Some of the changes around Bush Forever and water-sensitive urban design place pressures on the available green space. We have had to work with the drying climate and what that means for water. A working partnership has been developed with both the Department of Planning and the Department of Water. Most of the major municipalities are now using half the amount of water they did because of the design solutions that we have worked on and developed. The pressure is also on usage. There is enough public open space in middle urban Perth and we now have the evidence. But in outer Perth there are still shortfalls in provision. That is a work in progress. We will need all those players working together to make sure that those communities have enough public open space, that they do the right programming, and that they share what is available between schools, communities and universities. The challenges we have currently, including both the growth in population and pressures on available water, mean that all those players will have to work together to have solutions for our community.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have spoken to Minister Day about it, so he is well aware of it and is quite active in that area. While we are talking about Minister Day, I have also been trying to align the Department of Sport and Recreation more with the Department of Culture and the Arts. I think there are lots of opportunities for us to do things together, because we deliver similar outcomes but we use different vehicles to do it. A football game in the country involving enrichment and the Department of Culture and the Arts was a huge success, so I hope we can do more of that in the future.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I refer to the \$2 107 000 average cost of providing consultancy and contact services for policy, advocacy and infrastructure to organisations outlined on page 692 of the budget papers. Can the minister explain what the \$2.1 million for consultants is, and who were the consultants?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No, I cannot. I do not know who the consultants were. I will ask Alex Watt.

**Mr A. Watt:** The figure is actually \$2 107.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** At the top of the table, it has the figures in thousands and it has \$2 107.

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**Mr A. Watt:** It is a presentation issue within the budget papers. It is not in millions; it is just in whole dollars.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** It has \$2 107 000; is that right?

**Mr A. Watt:** It is \$2 107. The three zeros relate only to those figures that are just above the figures for the net cost of service above the solid black line. That is in thousands. It is the presentation of the statements. It is actually \$2 107; I can confirm that.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Is that a printing error in the statements?

**Mr A. Watt:** No; this is how the statements are presented.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** At the top of the table, it has the figures in thousands. There are black lines everywhere. I just want to know what that was classified for in the total budget. It looks like millions. Why would the figures be in thousands on every other page, but on this page it is only \$2 107?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I do not know the answer to that.

**Mr A. Watt:** All the performance indicators and efficiency indicators are in whole dollars. It is in the presentation. The triple zeros relate to the total net cost of services, but the efficiency indicators are not in millions.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** So the figure for consultants was only \$2 107 for the whole year.

**Mr A. Watt:** No; that is the average cost per consultancy.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That is the average cost of consultants.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** How do we know how much the department has used during the year if there is only an average? The minister could say that the department has 500 consultants at \$2 000. Am I getting confused?

**Mr A. Watt:** There were 3 200 consultancies. There is another figure that is extracted from the \$45.6 million figure that is related to part of the consultancies program. The total cost was \$6 742 000 and there were 3 200 consultancies. If one figure is divided by the other, it gives an average cost of \$2 107 per consultancy.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** So the figure for consultants is \$6.7 million a year. Can the minister provide a breakdown of the \$6.7 million for consultancies in this budget, how much was paid to the consultants and who they were?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will confirm with Alex because I think a lot of those consultancies are done in-house through the agency; they are not external consultancies. I will let him explain.

**Mr A. Watt:** This is all in-house. These are the department's staff consulting with state sporting associations, local governments, clubs and other clients of the agency. This is the direct cost of labour and materials for the staff, plus the allocation of the back office to support that, including a portion of information technology, finance and human resources. The total cost of providing that service is \$6.742 million, and the cost of our staff and the department's resources that are allocated to those consultancies. There has been a count put into a system that says that there have been 3 200 consultancies provided to the agency's clients.

[11.00 am]

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I return to the new Perth stadium outlined on page 693 of the *Budget Statements*. Further to announcements that the minister provided previously with regard to compensation to Golfwest Trading Company Pty Ltd, he mentioned that it was commercial-in-confidence. I find it absolutely appalling that money that is being provided by the state government—and therefore, by the taxpayers—is being kept confidential from the public. Why is that confidential while the compensation being paid to Perth Glory is not? Is it because one was negotiated through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and one was negotiated through the minister's department? In any case, surely we have a right to know what the elements were that made up that compensation; surely they cannot be commercial-in-confidence. When was the compensation paid? On what date was the compensation paid? Even if I take the minister's defence of commercial-in-confidence at face value, the minister can nevertheless still tell us the date on which that compensation was paid, and what the elements of that compensation were.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is not part of our budget; it is done through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. I am prepared to follow up on that and get as many details as I can for the member. It was done through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I confirm that the minister is agreeing to provide some supplementary information?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is not on my budget, Chairman; Chairwoman; Chairlady!

**The CHAIRMAN:** "Chair" will do!

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**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Chair!

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** But the new stadium is.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Maybe the member can ask about that in the division of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** The allocation for the new Perth stadium sports precinct comes under the minister's department and his division of the budget papers. How can he say that it is not part of his responsibility—and if it is not, why not? Why is the compensation element not part of his department, but part of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Because it was chosen by governments that the Department of the Premier and Cabinet would handle that issue of compensation. The member would have to ask —

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** But the minister is responsible for the major outlay in relation to the new Perth stadium, but with regard to the issue of compensation itself, that has been hived off to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That is the way government chose to do it.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** That is the good old Premier in action there, is it not?

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Keeps his hand on the till!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** That took place before the project started. It was separate to the project, but the member can ask about that in that division.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** An open and honest government!

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I refer to page 695 of the *Budget Statements*, under the heading “Details of Controlled Grants and Subsidies”. I notice that the community sporting and recreation facilities fund for 2012–13 was \$19.84 million, and in 2013–14 was \$12 million. Then for 2014–15, it goes back up to \$19.8 million. Why is there a drop in this year's budget?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** This question comes up every year; the member asks me it every year, and I think I have asked it on previous occasions, when I was on the other side, because I did not understand it then. I advise the member that the government will provide \$20 million annually for the community sporting and recreation facilities fund. The allocation in the forward estimates reflects the cash flows. Funding through the programs is provided on a reimbursement basis, so proponents are eligible to receive payments when they reach agreed milestones—a certain stage of a project, the completion of a project—and it is all about the cash flow coming through, so moneys that are not spent come through. The flows are constantly adjusted, but we deliver the \$20 million and, as the member will have seen over the last four or five years, since we raised it to \$20 million, that is what we have done each year, and we are committed to that again. There are cash flows; we might have so much money moving through from the previous year because we do not always expend the money. Programs might get delayed et cetera, so we put the money in when we actually need it.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I thought it might have been the fact that you pork-barrelled the National Party electorates before the last election and there was no more.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I think that question is out of order.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I refer the minister to the heading “Spending Changes” on page 689 of the *Budget Statements*, continuing over to page 690. There is spending listed on various sporting facilities in both metropolitan and regional areas, but I notice that there is nothing about the Ellenbrook sports complex, which was a “fully costed” election commitment by the Liberal Party, to the tune of \$7 million. If one goes back and looks at all the paraphernalia put out by the Liberal Party during the election campaign, that commitment was front and centre of a lot of the correspondence sent out by the Liberal candidate for that area. I am wondering why funding for the Ellenbrook swimming pool and Ellenbrook sports complex are not included in the *Budget Statements*, when they were “fully costed” financial commitments of the Liberal Party during the election campaign.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The commitments that were made during the election campaign will be met over the four-year period. Some are shown here as starting off, and have had money allocated; some have not. I can run through them all if the member wants, but just in respect of Ellenbrook, \$7 million has been pledged, and that will be met. We have already funded, through CSRFF, a master plan for the Ellenbrook sports hub. That master plan, I understand, has been completed, and now we will work through the projects with the City of Swan, and we will be guided by the City of Swan to implement them. The money is there; it is not shown as funding in the budget, but the commitment is there over the four-year period. Remember, this is the first year of the government. I will just let the member know that already in that hub, if you like, in 2011–12, we funded

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\$1.5 million for the development of the northern playing fields at the Ellenbrook district open space; in 2012–13, we provided \$1 047 574 for the construction of community build at the Ellenbrook district open space; and in 2013–14, \$1.5 million for the construction of four synthetic multipurpose fields, including lighting, and \$500 000 for the construction of the southern pavilion at Ellenbrook district open space. What I am trying to say is: yes, the commitment is there. Ellenbrook has had a lot of funding, and that is fine and good; Ellenbrook needs that funding. Also within the region of the City of Swan, there are seven other projects that have been funded since 2010–11. What I am saying is: yes, it is not shown as having funding allocated at this stage, but the process is underway because we have already funded the master plan, and we will work with the City of Swan to prioritise how it wants to develop that facility.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I just want to get this clear: is the minister saying that the additional \$7 million needed to fund the Ellenbrook swimming pool, which was an election promise, is a guarantee that will be met in this —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I do not know about the swimming pool.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** The swimming pool, in the election commitment —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** As I understand it, there is \$2 million for the swimming pool and \$5 million for the other improvements there.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Is there a guarantee that the swimming pool will be built during this term of Parliament?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The funding will be allocated and it will be commenced during this four-year period, unless there are any issues with the local government, but it is our intention to do that.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I am not talking about an intention —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is a bit like Albany. We had —

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Minister, can we just get back to Ellenbrook? I am not asking about intentions; is this a guarantee that this commitment will be met in this four-year cycle?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The money will be allocated in this four-year term and we will work with the City of Swan to complete the projects. It has to receive other funding to go with this. We allocated money to Albany back in 2008, and because the City of Albany was not ready for the projects, we could not utilise that money. In the end, at the request of the City of Albany, we actually used part of that money for other projects; the member for Albany was involved in that. It will be allocated during this four-year term. As I said before, there is recognition that we are now growing areas. We have realised that we have to do more with some of their sporting facilities, and I think if members look at where we have allocated money, that issue has been addressed to the best of our ability. We cannot do it all at once, and there are a lot of other areas around the state that need funding as well. If the member looks at what I just read out to him, he will see that there has been quite a priority put on that region, and for good reason. I support that.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I draw members' attention to the fact that we are still on division 58 and we have three more divisions to do before we break for lunch. I ask members to keep that in mind.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** I refer the minister to the fifth dot point on page 689. There is \$325 000 for Camp Quaranup, but nothing for it in the forward estimates. What is that \$325 000 for? Are there any plans for Camp Quaranup in the future?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Yes; Camp Quaranup will continue to operate, and I will get a chance to tell the member another one of my personal stories! I thought he would like that! As the member knows, Camp Quaranup used to be leased out, but then the people who ran it no longer wanted to continue.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Can I just say what a great job they did, minister.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They did do a great job, and they are great people. They not only did a great job, they rescued people and did everything.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Labor people!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Labor people, are they? Good on them. They are good people; great community people. I am going to tell the member that personal story. I know that camp really well, because I used to run all my cricket camps there. It is a fantastic facility, and one that I want to see continue, but I think that we could utilise Camp Quaranup even better. We went out to the private sector, but we did not really get much interest, so the Department of Sport and Recreation has arranged transitional management and the government has now approved an additional \$325 000 to fund the operation over the next two years, to make sure the camp continues to deliver, and, hopefully, we can improve on what it delivers. It delivers in excess of 12 500 bed nights and 20 000 physical activity hours per annum. As I said, it is the government's strong intention to continue to run it

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and improve it. We have funding for the next two years; there is no funding allocated after that period, but during that time we will continue to work on how we are going to run that camp to the best of our ability. I will just mention another thing. We have been working with the controlling body in respect of the celebrations for Anzac Day, because I think there could be a role for the camp to play during those celebrations. I think it would be silly to not utilise that facility. We are in touch with them, so bookings will be organised to make sure that we can play a role in what is going to be a very important time.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** I have a question very similar to the member for the Armadale's question about the Eaton Boomers Football Club, and Dardanup shire election promises that are nowhere to be seen in the budget or forward estimates. Could the minister give me a rundown of where we are headed?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Was that East Dalyellup recreation centre?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** No, the Dardanup shire's multipurpose sporting centre—a \$3 million election promise. There is a nice photo of the Premier making the announcement, if the minister would like me to get it out.

[11.15 am]

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Is that the \$3 million Eaton Oval pavilion, where we are going to build a new pavilion and associated infrastructure?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Yes, Eaton in Dardanup shire.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** It is very similar to what I have just said; it will happen, and there will be allocated —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** On the waitlist, is what the minister is saying? I just want to get on *Hansard* that it is on the waitlist, and there is no doubt it will be done before the next election.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The funding will be allocated, and, hopefully, the project will be underway.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** No, I want to hear that it will be finished as an election promise before the next election.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No; it will be commenced. I will give the commitment that the money will be allocated to it. Just to let the member for Collie-Preston know, because I think people do not realise what has gone before, since 2009–10 in Collie there has been development of the Roche Park at \$100 000, the construction of a lockable storage shed —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** No, the minister cannot use that! Collie is up the top of the hill and Eaton is at the bottom, if the minister does not know the difference.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The Shire of Dardanup.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** One is on the coastal strip.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have been down there a couple of times in my life, member. I know Dardanup well; in fact, I have been down there quite a lot over the past four years, opening new facilities in Capel and Dalyellup et cetera. Just in Dardanup, because the member asked me about Dardanup —

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** That was because the National Party thought it would win the seat, but it did not get it, so now we are struggling to get some money.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Can I just comment about sporting facilities? Look, the member has to remember that when we came to government I had been in opposition for eight years when the fund was at \$9 million—I think the Labor Party upped it from \$8 million to \$9 million one year; we took it to \$20 million! We more than doubled it, because what the then government was delivering was about half of what it should have been delivering.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Yes. I congratulate the minister on that, but we do not have to hear the history over and over again. In this room we want to know what is happening with this budget in the future. That is what we want to know!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member is very fortunate because he has those commitments there that will be done, like the other commitments we made that have been done. I have a whole list of them here if the member wants me to go through them.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** No, no.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I think I might! No, I will not go through them. The funding will be allocated in this four-year term. We are only a few months in from the election, so not everything happens first year up; simple as that. As with a household budget, it cannot all be done at once.

Chairman; Mr Peter Watson; Mr Terry Waldron; Mr John McGrath; Ms Andrea Mitchell; Dr Tony Buti; Mr  
Chris Hatton; Mr Mick Murray

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**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I have one final question. I refer to “Asset Investment Program” on page 693 of the *Budget Statements*. The minister told us last year that the government’s priority regarding the new Perth stadium was getting the planning right—I know a lot of work has gone into that. With that body of work now completed, can the minister give the committee some idea of the time frames we can expect for this stadium, and when we will see it start to take shape?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I will not go through the whole lot because of time, but I think it is important that people understand the time lines. I get a lot of people coming to me who are confused about exactly what is happening. I will start with the planning. We were criticised a bit for the planning and asked why we had to plan for two and a half years. I will tell members why we had to plan for two and a half years. This is a huge project for Western Australia—for taxpayers—and it is going to be a big project going into the future. We want to make sure we get it as right as we possibly can. We saw the planning rushed on some other large projects, which caused problems down the line. I am not saying that we will not have the odd problem down the line—we probably will because it is such a big project—but I am pretty confident that we have done exhaustive planning. The member for South Perth has been involved in a lot of that, including what was called the minister’s junket, when we went on a trip to look at stadiums. It was probably the best thing we ever did, because it really made us aware of what the modern stadium requires and how to get there, and some of the people we were able to meet with were useful. I know that Ronnie Hurst behind me has done a couple of tours over there, and that has been absolutely critical to make sure we get this right.

We have started the pre-construction site works—they are underway, and if members go out to Burswood, they will see the work going on out there—which will prepare the site for the stadium. That process will take, in total, 18 months; a lot of the work will be done within that time, but there is a period when we want to make sure the site settles. That is being done by a local firm, by the way; Ertech Keller Joint Venture is undertaking that project, with a budget of around \$31 million, which is within the budget we forecast, so we are on track there. While that is taking place, we have shortlisted three consortia to bid for the stadium under the design, build, finance and maintain contract. They have had distributed to them the first tranche of their proposal request, and they are now entering into what is called an interactive tendering process. They will be meeting regularly with the steering committee that is managing the stadium to make sure that when they formulate their final bids, they are in line with what the state wants, and the committee will keep them on track for their and our benefit. That process will take until the end of this year, when they will come back with their fully costed proposals. An evaluation period will then take place over the next three to four months, with the announcement of the successful consortium made in the middle of 2014. It will then commence on the stadium and precinct around the end of 2014, with the stadium completed in time for the commencement of the 2018 AFL season.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** Is that about a three-year construction period for the stadium itself?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** There is 18 months of pre-construction, and it should start in 2015–16; yes, nearly three years. It is a big project. A couple of things —

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** Come on, “Tuck”!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** They have hardly asked a question! Opposition members have had four in a row. I think I should —

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** Yes; a bit of balance, please.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** He knows it all!

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** He is the parliamentary secretary, he reports to the minister.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Ridiculous!

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I just want to finish off—I have nearly finished.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** Keep going, minister; the minister is on a roll.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I have a couple of important points.

One of the things we focused on was the “fans first” concept, because from looking at stadiums around the world we learnt that to attract people to stadiums we have to make sure they have a great experience from when they leave to when they get home. So that will be the focus, and the three consortia are obviously very much aware of that. The new stadium will offer probably up around 13 different ticket types, so a whole new range of ticket and product types will be on offer. Going to see sport there will be a whole new experience; the sight lines, seating and technology will all be world-class. It will change the way we view sport in Western Australia. People still think about Subiaco Oval, but it will obviously be a lot different. Obviously a lot more public seating will be available. So, that is where it is at: it is up, it has started and it is underway, and I hope it will progress well.

Chairman; Mr Peter Watson; Mr Terry Waldron; Mr John McGrath; Ms Andrea Mitchell; Dr Tony Buti; Mr  
Chris Hatton; Mr Mick Murray

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**Dr A.D. BUTI:** My question relates to pages 702 and 703 of the *Budget Statements* and the provision of elite sporting facilities and community facilities. In regard to elite facilities, does the minister have a further update on the VenuesWest —

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** VenuesWest is the next section.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I will leave that one then.

The community facility is about the lack of funding for Ignite Basketball in the Armadale region, which, as the minister knows, has been a very successful program.

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

**The CHAIRMAN:** Which line item is it?

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** It is on page 703, “Provision of Community Facilities and Services”.

**The CHAIRMAN:** We will put the question for this division before we move to that then, thank you, member for Armadale.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** Hang on! No, we are not moving; this is still under Sport and Recreation.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Yes, it is still under Sport and Recreation.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I know, but it is under division 59, and we are discussing division 58 at the moment.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member needs to refer to something in my division.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Sorry; yes.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am happy to take the question.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** I will leave it.

**The CHAIRMAN:** No, minister; I am sorry, but we do need to move this question first if there are no more questions under division 58.

**Mr P.B. WATSON:** My question relates to “Asset Investment Program”. Has the government allocated funding for the future redevelopment of the motorsport park north of Wattle Avenue, Wanneroo, which will be an extension of the existing racing circuit at Barbagallo Raceway leased and operated by the WA Sporting Car Club?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** As I understand it, when we did the upgrade to Barbagallo Raceway, as part of that \$15 million, money was allocated for planning for the next stage of the raceway. So, there is planning money, as I understand it; I might get someone from facilities to comment on that so that I can be a little more accurate, member.

**Mr R. Thomson:** Out of the project that was delivered a couple of years ago, the WA Sporting Car Club delivered the project well under budget, so some funds remain unspent that could be put towards the planning of the second stage; also, we have identified some funding in our state sporting infrastructure fund for planning for stage 2 in, I think, 2014-15. Those planning studies continue to be undertaken. The WA Sporting Car Club is currently working towards obtaining a lease for the land to the north of the site to facilitate a future track expansion.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** The member for Armadale has a genuine question he wants to ask.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I know, but he will ask it under division 59; that is the page he was referring to.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** No, he was referring to the wrong page —

**The CHAIRMAN:** Did he?

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** — because when we get to VenuesWest, he will not be able to ask that question. In fairness to the member, he has done a lot of work on this.

**The CHAIRMAN:** That is fine; it is just that he did refer to a page that was in the next division.

**Dr A.D. BUTI:** Sorry about that.

**Mr T.K. WALDRON:** I am happy to answer his question on Ignite Basketball.

I thank the member for the question. We have probably spoken about this before. Ignite Basketball in the Armadale area has proved really successful in engaging kids, giving them something to do and engaging them in sport, recreation and associated activities. It is getting the kids together and keeping them from going into Northbridge, in particular, at night. It has been a highly successful program. We used to fund it for \$65 000 from



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Sport and Recreation, and I think there was a proceeds of crime grant of \$150 000. That has run out. I understand that the organisers went to Healthway for funds but were not successful. This is an important program, and I have chosen to continue to fund it through Sport and Recreation. I have allocated \$150 000 over the next three years to make sure we keep this program operating. In the meantime, the department will work with the council to see if we can, in that time, also get some extra funding so that we might be able to expand that program. It is a great program. I would like to see other agencies—federal or whatever—get involved in it, because this program and the Midnight Basketball program at Midland have been highly successful. One of the great successes I have seen with these programs is that some of the young fellas or girls who started off in these programs are now virtually running them. Ignite Basketball is actually brilliant. It is not perfect—some kids might still get themselves in a bit of strife—but I think it is making a big impact. That is why I asked the department—it agreed to take my direction, along with the director general who supports the program as well—to make sure we fund it and keep it going. The member's electorate is out there; if ever he has any issues with it, I am always happy for him to bring them to me. I would like to get out one night with the member and have a look at it myself.

**The appropriation was recommended.**