

**YOUTH INNOVATION HUB — LANDSDALE**

*Statement by Member for Landsdale*

**MS M.M. QUIRK (Landsdale)** [12.50 pm]: I recently had the unedifying experience of watching the debate online of the City of Wanneroo council meeting of 1 November. It was unedifying because the merits of the construction of the Dordaak Kepap library and youth innovation hub planned for Landsdale were disputed by some. Instead, disruptive attempts were made by a minority to derail the project on specious grounds. The recommendation before council was to proceed to detailed design. A \$3 million commitment for a youth activity hub was promised to the city by the McGowan government in 2017. This is sorely needed in Landsdale, as roughly 29 per cent of its population is under the age of 18. The original plan was to build a police and community youth centre, but as a suitable site was not available, this was revised. Discussions between the city and the state government meant that these funds were not forfeited but were set aside for a youth innovation hub attached to the planned library in Landsdale. The city is contributing over \$7 million. Comprehensive community consultation has occurred since June 2019, and concept plans were modified to incorporate constructive feedback. Many students from local schools are actively involved. Despite this, four councillors, three of whom represent wards outside Landsdale, attempted to undermine the project at the eleventh hour. Surely, they understand that Landsdale is a high-growth suburb that is bereft of community infrastructure. I thank the majority of the enlightened councillors who support this important project, as well as the hardworking council staff who have put their heart and soul into the project.