

LOCAL GOVERNMENT — AMALGAMATIONS

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

I refer to the minister's massive failure in the past 24 hours, which has left about 3 000 people without a local authority; his confusing position on Burswood; and, his conflicting position on vote weighting in the proposed new City of Perth.

Mr M.J. Cowper interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Murray–Wellington, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I will start again. I refer to the minister's —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! Member for Mandurah!

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I refer to the minister's massive failure in the past 24 hours, which has left about —

Mr S.K. L'Estrange interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Churchlands, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I refer to the minister's massive failure in the past 24 hours, which has left about 3 000 people without a local authority; his confusing position on Burswood; and, his conflicting position on vote weighting in the new proposed —

Point of Order

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: Mr Speaker, you have made rules in this chamber about preambles to questions.

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

The SPEAKER: Points of order are to be heard in silence, member for Mandurah. I will allow the member to ask his question.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I refer to the minister's massive failure in the past 24 hours, which has left about 3 000 people without a local authority; his confusing position on Burswood; and, his conflicting position on vote weighting in the proposed new City of Perth. Will he resign from cabinet; and, if not, why not?

Mr A.J. SIMPSON replied:

To answer the question: no, I will not resign from cabinet. It is a decision by this government to allow us to get on with the local government reform process, which has been 100 years in the making. It is now time to move on. I will restate what I said this morning about the piece of Subiaco that will not be part of the Subiaco–Cambridge process. We launched it yesterday. We rejected the city of Riversea, which would involve five western suburb authorities coming together. We do not accept that because we are adjusting the boundaries of the City of Perth act. Once we have confirmed that boundary, we can go through the process to assemble those five authorities. I make it very clear that there will be no consequential impact on any ratepayers in those areas. They will continue to be fully serviced by a local government. We are working through the process. We have released a report. We are still working through the final details. We will make sure we get that result before we go to the next level.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr A.J. SIMPSON: As I said, there will be no consequences for the ratepayers as we work through this process. Yesterday we released the Local Government Advisory Board's report. I have had the opportunity to read its 750 pages.

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

Mr A.J. SIMPSON: I even tabled it this morning, so the member for Cannington can have a read. More importantly, this is about the state government making sure that we provide good services for the ratepayers of Western Australia