

CULTURE AND THE ARTS — CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FUND

197. Ms L.L. BAKER to the Minister for Culture and the Arts:

ABC Triple J radio recently released a report finding that in the areas of earnings, payments and representation in radio, women are still falling significantly behind men. Can the minister advise the house how the Labor government's contemporary music fund is supporting not only jobs in the creative industry, but also women in the music industry?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

Yes, I can. It is a very important question and I thank the member for Maylands for her support of the contemporary music industry, live venues and musicians in Western Australia. It is true that the Triple J report that the member mentioned highlighted a big discrepancy between payments and access for women. The fundamental principle of the contemporary music fund, which is a fund that was an election commitment of the McGowan government, is focused and framed around ensuring equity and access. The framing of the contemporary music fund has been informed by a diverse selection of people across the state, feeding into how we can best support the contemporary music industry in Western Australia, how we can grow the creative industries in that area and how we can support very, very talented musicians right across the state.

I am pleased to say that we are already seeing the benefits of this focus, because the \$3 million commitment by the contemporary music fund includes a key \$1 million commitment to a grants program, which is very much framed around encouraging women, Indigenous artists and musicians, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to be represented. What I want to see, and what the government is focused on, is making sure that by increasing the opportunities and access, we continue to support a vibrant contemporary music industry in Western Australia. Some of these focuses, such as the safer venues initiative, which was criticised by members on the other side when it was announced a few weeks ago —

Point of Order

Mr A. KRSTICEVIC: I have a point of order —

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: It was criticised by the member for Carine, the opposition spokesperson, the member for hysteria in Hillarys —

The SPEAKER: Minister, point of order!

Mr A. KRSTICEVIC: Mr Speaker, the minister is misleading the house. What I was criticising is where the funding came from, not the program. The funding should have come from other sources, not from the contemporary music fund, which is there for artists.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Further to the point of order, there is an abuse of question time going on every single day, and today has been appalling. This member has been here for 10 years or so and he knows that to say that the minister is not saying what he believes to be true is not a point of order. This abuse of question time has gone on way too long.

Mr S.K. L'Estrange: What is your point of order?

The SPEAKER: My point of order is that it is not a point of order. If we keep getting ones like this, I will continue to call people to order. That is not a point of order. Do not abuse question time by doing that unless it is a relevant point of order.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I am very happy to answer the question from the member for —

Point of Order

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: I have a point of order.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: Mr Speaker, can you make a ruling on whether the Premier's point of order was a point of order?

The SPEAKER: I did not rule on that, no. It was not a point of order.

Dr M.D. Nahan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Well, if you did not interject all day, Leader of the Opposition, I would probably have more time to think.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I am pleased that the member for Carine interrupted, because when we look at what the McGowan government promised in contemporary music, we see that it made a \$3 million commitment.

Mr A. Krsticevic interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Carine, I call you to order a second time.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: When we look at what the then Liberal government was offering the contemporary music industry, we see that it was zilch, nothing, not a scrap of money. The member for Carine may forget that it is the McGowan government's contemporary music fund. Our fund is focused on delivering a range of supporting measures, including grants, to make sure that the contemporary music industry and Western Australian contemporary artists get the lift-up and the support they need to ensure that we have a vibrant contemporary music scene—contrast with you, there ain't no contrast.

Mr A. Krsticevic interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Carine!

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: You criticised a program that was part of the contemporary music fund initiative —

Mr A. Krsticevic interjected.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: — and seeks to support and make venues safe for young women, and that is what we will keep doing.

Withdrawal of Remark

The SPEAKER: Member for Carine, you will withdraw that. I call you to order for the third time.

Mr A. KRSTICEVIC: I withdraw.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: That is what we will keep doing. Members opposite offered nothing, and they continue to offer nothing except carping and criticism. But we have a very, very strong policy that is delivering results. We only have to look at last year's WAMAwards that acknowledged a number of very, very significant and very successful female artists. This government supports female artists, and those who are Indigenous, and those from the regions, and those people who want to broaden their experience in the contemporary music industry. Members opposite do not. That is the difference. We will keep doing what we are doing. We will keep delivering our contemporary music fund, because the members opposite offered nothing and they continue to offer nothing to the creative industries in Western Australia.