

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION — SUPPLIERS

5291. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the Western Australian Local Government Association's (WALGA) preferred supplier arrangements with the majority of WA councils and considering the introduction of the *Western Australian Jobs Act 2017*, I ask:

- (a) Is the department working to ensure WALGA pushes WA-based companies to councils for procurement services:
 - (i) If not, why not; and
- (b) Has the department had any contact with local governments in the wake of the *Western Australian Jobs Act 2017* to encourage more WA-based companies are used as preferred suppliers:
 - (i) If not, why not; and
 - (ii) If yes, what was communicated to the councils and will the Minister provide the correspondence?

Mr D.A. Templeman replied:

- (a)–(b) The department does not have any statutory authority to compel WALGA to push WA-based companies for procurement services. However, the department is working collaboratively with WALGA through the State Local Government Partnership to improve local procurement opportunities, which is a key Government priority. Local Governments have demonstrated they provide an important role supporting economic activity. The department has supported WALGA's development of the Local Government Economic Development Framework which is based on the *Western Australian Jobs Act 2017* and includes the need to support local procurement and small business. On 7 May 2019, I officially launched the WALGA Local Government Economic Development Framework, developed to support the sector.