

**CITY OF MELVILLE — INQUIRY**

*Statement by Minister for Local Government*

**MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Minister for Local Government)** [9.12 am]: As members will be aware, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries has been conducting an authorised inquiry into the City of Melville in accordance with section 8.3(2) of the Local Government Act 1995. The inquiry commenced in late 2017 to test the veracity of the unprecedented number of allegations made against the city since 2014. That authorised inquiry has now been completed and a report presented to me, as Minister for Local Government. The investigation made 17 findings and seven recommendations. Although the city collectively provides good governance, there are some cultural issues with complaint handling which could be improved. The recommendations will be the catalyst the city needs to drive a cultural change by ensuring that all parties are better informed and have a clearer understanding of their roles, and will ultimately lead to more positive internal and external interactions.

The report will assist both the city and members of the community to refocus on the relevant issues that are the key to providing good government, which the community deserves and has the right to expect. The city and affected parties have seen the report and have been given the opportunity to comment prior to its finalisation. Within six months of the date of this report, the chief executive officer of the city is to deliver a comprehensive report to the director general of the department on the implementation of the recommendations.

I table a copy of the “Report of the Inquiry into the City of Melville” for members’ information.

[See paper 2562.]