

SUNSET HOSPITAL, A CLASS RESERVE

715. Dr CONSTABLE to the Minister for Planning:

- (1) When was the Sunset Hospital gazetted as an A class reserve?
- (2) For what purposes does the classification of A class reserve intend a site to be reserved?
- (3) For what purposes does an urban zone classification allow a site to be used?
- (4) Is the Minister able to explain how an urban zone classification can co-exist with A class reserve status on the Sunset Hospital site without compromising the sites long standing A class reserve status?
- (5) How much money does the Government expect to raise from the sale of two residential sites included in its redevelopment proposal?
- (6) What is the intended use of money raised from the sale of these two residential sites?
- (7) If the answer to (6) is heritage building restoration, how does the Government plan to fund upkeep of the buildings after this one off payment is received and spent?
- (8) How can the Government justify allowing the site to be leased for the purposes of establishing a retirement village for the wealthy few over retaining the site wholly as an A class reserve for all?
- (9) Is the Minister aware that the proposed retirement villages boundaries encompass a heritage listed Catholic Chapel on the sites eastern side?
- (10) How can the Minister justify allowing the chapel to be engulfed by the proposed retirement village boundaries?

Mr KIERATH replied:

- (1) I am advised that in May 1900 the Administrator classified Public Reserve for Recreation No. 1667 (containing most of the Sunset Hospital site) as a Class 'A' reserve with the stated purpose of "Recreation" pursuant to Act 63 Vic., No. 24. This purpose was subsequently changed by Act No. 13 of 1904 to "Old Men's Depot"
- (2) I am advised that a site can be used for whatever purpose is specified in the order setting aside that land as a Class "A" reserve. In the case of the Sunset Hospital site, it is reserved for the purpose of "Old Men's Depot"
- (3) The Urban zone in the Metropolitan Region Scheme is a broad regional zone which permits a range of zones and reservations to be considered under a local government Town Planning Scheme.
- (4) The "A" Class reserve status of the Sunset Hospital site is a matter of tenure which provides restrictions upon the use of the land by the body under whose care it has been placed. The zoning, reservation and planning controls created and imposed by the Metropolitan Region Scheme are separate statutory matters. However it is now proposed that the Sunset site remain a reservation under the Metropolitan Region Scheme.
- (5) The redevelopment of the Sunset Hospital site is being dealt with by the Government Projects Office which is responsible to the Treasurer, therefore, this does not fall within my portfolio responsibilities. However, the Government Projects Office has the following responses to questions (5) to (10). It is not proposed to sell the sites referred to by the Member, as they are to be included in a parks and recreation reserve in the Metropolitan Region Scheme.
- (6) Not applicable.
- (7) The upkeep of the retirement village will be the responsibility of the operator under lease arrangement. It is intended that the cost of maintaining the community and public open space areas will be met from lease payments from the retirement village site.
- (8) The site is being retained as an "A" Class reserve. The retirement village site encompasses most of the heritage buildings which must be retained. Recognising its former use for accommodating the aged, the prospect of "not for profit" organisations using the site for aged care was considered, but this use was found to be non viable. In view of the demand for high quality retirement housing in the area, it was felt that a private village was appropriate. Furthermore, surplus funds generated from the lease of the retirement village will be used for aged care programs in other areas of the State.
- (9)-(10) The Conservation Plan of the site prepared in 1995 indicated that the Catholic Chapel had some heritage significance. A review of the Conservation Plan this year identifies the Catholic Chapel as

having little significance. This review is supported by the Heritage Council of Western Australia. Therefore the chapel could be retained or removed. It would be up to the developer of the retirement village to determine whether this building had utility. The chapel was in use when the hospital was operational but it has not been used since closure of the hospital in 1995. All buildings identified with heritage significance will be retained.