

PERTH STADIUM — TENDER CONTRACTS

**521. Mr J.E. McGRATH to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:**

Several members interjected.

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I will ask the question.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Mr J.E. McGRATH:** I ask the minister, the former coalminer, how he can claim to be about putting WA jobs first when he gave the production suites contract to a South Australian company—the suites at the new Perth Stadium—over an established Western Australian company and has he taken any action to rectify the situation?

**Mr M.P. MURRAY replied:**

I do not know —

Several members interjected.

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Let me finish! I do not know where the member has been in the last few months. He certainly has not been attending many events that I have been to and it has been noted.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** Can I also say that maybe, if he understood the processes that were put in place by him and the previous Premier, he would have his own answer. We have been more than generous in trying to get local companies into these contracts that are there. In fact, we have spent a lot of time to make sure that the beverages are sourced from Western Australia, which is a great result for Western Australians and their jobs out there. We have a very generous position for local companies. Unfortunately, some of those companies cannot match what other people out there can. We are doing the best for Western Australian companies. We are also doing the best for the WA taxpayer, to make sure that we get a balance in there. We are not going to just take any offer that is put forward. We have due diligence and it is done through a group called VenuesLive, which is doing the contracts. It is doing a very good job and is working very closely with us on local content. I say that in the next few weeks members opposite will be in here praising us about the local content. We will wait to see. Let us think back about who put the state in the position it is now in with the stadium and where we are with the contracts as such. It is not this side of politics: it is that side of politics.

**Mr J.E. McGrath:** It is a good stadium. You want to go and open it. You cannot keep away from the place.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for South Perth!

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** If we want to go on and talk about the Australian Football League and the West Australian Football Commission—do we want to talk down those lines? If we were going to build a stadium or any other business, we would want the user contracts in place before we started, not at the end, as we have now.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Mr M.P. MURRAY:** We would not want them at the end where we are now talking about how we can get the AFL there. I expect that there will be some great announcements in the next week or so, not only about the AFL, but also about the WA Football Commission and contracts into the future.