

CONSERVATION ZONES, TOWN PLANNING SCHEMES

1724. Hon Jim Scott to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Government promised to introduce Conservation Zones as a new zoning category for Town Planning Schemes to recognise bushland as a legitimate land use and to provide necessary protection?
- (2) Has this new Conservation Zone been introduced?
- (3) If not, why not?

Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:

- (1) The Government gave an undertaking in its policy on Environment, which is set out in WA Labor's New Directions document, to:

'introduce Conservation Zones as a new zoning category for Town Planning Schemes to recognise bushland as a legitimate land use and provide the necessary protection'.
- (2)-(3) This matter is being addressed in the Western Australian Planning Commission's review of the Model Scheme Text and Planning Schemes Manual.

The provisions of the Model Scheme Text are required to be incorporated into all new local government town planning schemes, except where the Minister agrees to variations to the provisions and is an appropriate mechanism for delivering on this undertaking.

A number of existing local government town planning schemes already contain Conservation Zones that generally seek to apply special land use controls to land possessing significant aesthetic, ecological or conservation values (e.g. the Shire of Busselton District Town Planning Scheme No. 20 and the Shire of Albany Town Planning Scheme No. 3).