

CITY OF MELVILLE, CAMPAIGN TO REINSTATE THE FREMANTLE EASTERN BYPASS

1949. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the City of Melville has appropriated \$300 000 from its ratepayers to run a campaign to reinstate the deleted Fremantle Eastern Bypass?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the City of Melville has already spent approximately \$100 000 on its campaign against the deletion of the Eastern Bypass?
- (3) Will the Minister request an audit of the City of Melville to ensure that the \$300 000 is not being used for party political activities?
- (4) If not, why not?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1)-(2) I am aware that the City of Melville has spent and proposes to spend public funds in relation to the deletion of the Fremantle Eastern Bypass.
- (3)-(4) Last year the Department of Local Government and Regional Development examined the use of municipal funds by the City of Melville to oppose deletion of the Fremantle Eastern Bypass from the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS). The Department concluded that there had been no breach of the Act. Since then, the bypass has been deleted from the MRS and in these changed circumstances, I have requested my Department to advise me if this new commitment of municipal funds by the City is in the interests of good government and in keeping with the provisions of the Act.