

HILLARYS BOAT HARBOUR, RESEARCH FACILITIES

871. Mr JOHNSON to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

I refer to recently announced plans to relocate the Fisheries WA marine and research facilities to a car park at Hillarys Boat Harbour.

- (1) Is the minister aware that the Premier made an election commitment to suspend the relocation until a full review of the impact of the proposed development on opportunities for expanding parking and facilitating other access points has been undertaken?
- (2) Will the minister also confirm that she received a petition on 14 February signed by more than 5 000 Western Australians requesting that the development be deferred until the promised review is completed?
- (3) Will the minister advise the House why she has not yet tabled the petition, which she has had for nearly two months?
- (4) Will the minister confirm that the relocation of the facility has been finalised but that the review has not been completed?

Ms MacTIERNAN replied:

- (1)-(4) Both the Minister for Agriculture and I were surprised to see that report in the newspaper. No final decision has been made by the Government. Indeed, we are very mindful of our election commitment.

Mr Johnson interjected.

Ms MacTIERNAN: A final decision has not been made. We are in negotiation -

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms MacTIERNAN: Some weeks ago I met with my colleague Hon Kim Chance to discuss this proposal. We made it very clear that we needed to complete the review of car parking. That review is in the process of completion. We understand that there has been extensive discussion with all the leaseholders and that those parking issues by and large have been resolved.

Mr Johnson interjected.

Ms MacTIERNAN: The proposed development -

Mr Johnson interjected

The SPEAKER: Member!

Ms MacTIERNAN: We are awaiting the final report. I have made it clear to my colleague that we will not sign off on the arrangement with the Department of Fisheries until we have that report. We absolutely intend to honour our commitment. In the meantime, we understand that -

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Ms MacTIERNAN: We understand that extensive meetings have been undertaken with the various leaseholders. We have been advised - we will check this - that the majority of them are happy with the new arrangements. We will not sign any proposal with the Department of Fisheries until we have that review. We are very mindful of the commitment made by the Labor Party prior to the election and we will honour that commitment.