

PLANNING REFORM

**97. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Premier:**

I have a supplementary question. Why has the Premier's government abandoned an orderly community-based planning process simply to satisfy the demands of its major fundraising donors?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please! You both asked and answered your own question then. You have to just ask a question and not give your own conclusion.

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

Again I reject the premise of the question. It is a ridiculous and offensive suggestion by someone who was recently supplanted. He had a 50 per cent chance of being the Leader of the Liberal Party and he lost it.

**Ms R. Saffioti** interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Yes. That is the member's situation. Planning powers are delegated by state legislation to local governments. They are state powers. Local governments are the creation of the state, just so that the member knows. That is the reality. I will give the member this example. It has been raised a few times, but I think it is worth noting. We support having a children's hospice in the western suburbs. We are helping to fund it. We support former Senator Ian Campbell all the way with what he is trying to achieve. Do members know who opposed it? It was the City of Nedlands. The council opposed it. We are trying to set up a hospice for little kids who are dying of cancer, and who goes and opposes it? The local council. Does the member need a better example than that of why sometimes we need to have the capacity to get things done? That was so offensive and so horrible that that council would do that. It complained about the noise of little kids with cancer playing. For goodness sake! That is what we are trying to overcome here. The Liberal Party can support those naysayers all they like. I know which side I am on.