

PERTH AND PEEL STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

370. Hon CHARLES SMITH to the minister representing the Minister for Planning:

I refer to the state government's announcement last month that it has decided to suspend work on the strategic assessment of the Perth and Peel regions until a critical review of the ongoing costs, risks and benefits for Western Australia is completed and can be considered by government.

- (1) As part of its review, will the state government also revise its population growth projections?
- (2) Does the state government concede that the "Perth and Peel Green Growth Plan for 3.5 million", in its current form, allows for unacceptable levels of land clearing and natural habitat destruction?
- (3) Will the state government now consider the implementation of an overarching state population strategy aimed at protecting WA's natural environment, as well as the quality of life of incumbent residents?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided by the Minister for Planning.

- (1)–(3) Population growth is outside the terms of the review of the strategic assessment of the Perth and Peel regions. The state government has delivered an integrated land use plan through the Perth and Peel@3.5 million frameworks that balances social, economic and environmental factors at the highest strategic level to accommodate projected population growth.