

COUNTRY LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND

417. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Minister for Regional Development:

As a supplementary question, is this just another sleight to the minister from the Premier, on top of his denial of the minister's deal on local government amalgamations?

Mr B.J. GRYLLS replied:

The positions of both myself and my colleagues on local government amalgamations are very clear. The member for Collie–Preston has not put his position; his party does not have a position on local government amalgamations because it chooses not to have a position on anything. But because I got a supplementary question, it provides me with the —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! The Leader of the National Party.

Mr B.J. GRYLLS: Thank you, Mr Speaker. My final quote also comes from the shadow Treasurer from the *Hansard* of on 25 May 2010, where he states —

This is a time when the National Party cannot afford to have its own little slush fund wandering the state, spending in a knee-jerk reaction on unsustainable projects.

Quite clearly, there has been a substantial change in the position when every member opposite criticised this program again and again. The Liberal–National government thought the investment into regional community was vital and critical. We made that investment and by making the changes it made the difference by delivering the outcomes. We have moved on to new priorities.