

LEANING TREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, GERALDTON

**692. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the Minister for Education and Training:**

- (1) Is the minister aware of the application for registration by the Leaning Tree Community School in Geraldton?
- (2) If so, what was the reason for not allowing the registration, given that the mid-west region is recognised as a rapidly growing catchment area for education due to the booming economy, which the minister continues to talk about?
- (3) Will the minister table the guidelines for the registration of such schools?

**Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

(1)-(3) I remember the application. The application went through a fairly stringent process.

**Hon Murray Criddle:** You should have had notice of this question.

**Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH:** I do not have it, but I am happy to provide the member with some general information. As soon as the answer comes to me, I will provide it to the member.

One of the key criteria for the establishment of new independent schools in any area is the new school's impact on the populations of surrounding schools. From memory, there was a question about the growth of the student population in Geraldton generally. That factor, combined with a recommendation from the committee that the proposal not be supported, was the reason that I upheld the decision of the committee. However, I am happy to provide the exact details when they come to me and certainly the criteria for assessment.