

MIDLAND WORKSHOPS — DEVELOPMENT

Statement by Minister for Local Government

MR J.N. CAREY (Perth — Minister for Local Government) [9.26 am]: I rise to inform the house of the next phase of the Midland railway workshops transformation. This is exciting for the area and I know that the Speaker is happy that this will be delivered in her electorate.

Through this new phase, the remaining lots within the former railway workshop block 1 will be transformed into a health, education and medical research hub, generating hundreds of new jobs. We are proud to be partnering with Midland Health and Knowledge Precinct, a Western Australian company that will develop the community centre and medical and education hub. Proposed services will include specialist medical services to cater for chronic disease and preventive care, Aboriginal medical services and medical research, which will complement the adjoining GP super clinic. The facility will host health, education and workforce training opportunities that focus on developing a job-ready workforce for the local community. The precinct will also include an early learning centre that will provide much-needed early education facilities. The development will include a new hotel, which will provide improved access to tourist regions such as the Swan Valley and Perth Hills, while remaining close to public transport delivered through the exciting Metronet program.

The proposed development will preserve and celebrate the heritage of the iconic workshops and machinery, and provide a place for art projects and heritage exhibits. This hub will not only create hundreds of jobs in the construction period, but also provide 350 jobs for the local community. This is part of the \$1.5 billion investment into the urban renewal of Midland that is being delivered by our government in partnership with the private sector, to transform our eastern suburbs.