

PERTH WATERFRONT PROJECT — LIQUOR LICENCES

73. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Premier:

I refer to the recently released waterfront plan and to the Premier's comments on Channel 10 news on 16 February about it taking years to get a liquor licence but that it will not for proprietors on the waterfront.

- (1) Does the state government intend to create a two-tiered, liquor-licensing system, thereby giving preference to applications from waterfront projects?
- (2) If a two-tiered system is not the intention, how does the Premier explain his comments; and, is it an admission that his government's refusal of so many liquor licenses is a barrier to sensible development?
- (3) Does the Premier agree with the member for Mount Lawley's comments in *The Perth Voice* that the administration of liquor licensing laws in WA is like East Germany?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

- (1)–(3) There has been no existing liquor licence granted, to my understanding, in the vicinity of the Perth waterfront development. Obviously, this will be a major recreation–entertainment tourist facility, and I imagine that a number of liquor licences will be approved.

The public in Western Australia can take it as given that liquor licences will be granted for the waterfront project. It would be an absurdity not to have them there.