

TOWN PLANNING STAFF - REGIONS

630. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

Has a decision been made to appoint additional town planning staff to the mid-west region, in particular to Geraldton and Jurien Bay, to process the backlog of planning issues?

Hon KATE DOUST replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, I provide the following answer -

Yes. An additional senior planning position has recently been approved for the Geraldton office of the Department for Planning and Infrastructure. Also the provision of a parapanning position to provide additional support is currently under consideration. Both positions will be assigned to clear outstanding planning approvals in the Geraldton office. The department is also examining the reallocation of existing staff to provide additional resourcing for strategic planning matters in the region.