

MIDLAND SALEYARDS, REPLACEMENT

149. Hon M.J. CRIDDLE to the Minister for Agriculture:

- (1) Has the minister made a decision on the construction and location of the new saleyards to replace the Midland saleyards complex?
- (2) Where are the preferred sites?
- (3) What is the expected financial return from the sale of the Midland land?
- (4) Is that money to be made available in full to the Western Australian Meat Industry Authority for the construction of the new saleyards and the purchase of land?
- (5) What is the cost of the new facility?
- (6) When the study and facts are presented to the minister, will industry have an opportunity for input on the location of the saleyards?
- (7) Will the minister take into consideration the likely impact on shires of road routes and expenditure?
- (8) What is the time frame for decision and construction?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I note that it is a much better question.

- (1) No, a decision has not yet been made.
- (2) The sites currently under consideration are in the Bullsbrook-Muchea area and also in the Northam area.
- (3) Not known. The meat industry is developing a strategy on land disposal as part of its feasibility study. I think that means the Meat Industry Authority is developing a strategy, although that is not what the written answer says. This strategy is being developed in conjunction with the Midland Redevelopment Authority and LandCorp.
- (4) It is expected that funding for any proposed facility will come from the sale of existing assets.
- (5) Not known at this time. The Meat Industry Authority is preparing a feasibility study which will include estimates of the cost.
- (6) When I have received the feasibility study, I will consult with industry.
- (7) The study will evaluate the likely effects of the options on road routes.
- (8) The feasibility study is expected to be completed by September. It will include proposed time lines for construction.