

PERTH'S BUSHPLAN, BUSH FOREVER PROGRAM

255. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

I ask this question on behalf of Hon Giz Watson, who cannot be in the Chamber.

With regard to the Government's apparent commitment to implement Perth's "Bush Forever" Bushplan, and the importance of taxes raised under the metropolitan region improvement fund to purchase land -

- (1) Does the minister accept that under the previous Government the tax rate under the metropolitan region improvement fund was lowered twice?
- (2) Will the minister raise the tax rate under the metropolitan region improvement fund to at least the former rate of 25c in the dollar in order to provide funds for the acquisition of Bushplan sites?
- (3) If the answer to question (2) is no, why not?

Hon G.T. GIFFARD replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No. The metropolitan region improvement tax rate was last amended on 1 July 1993, and before that, on 1 July 1987.
- (2) No policy decisions have been made in relation to this matter.
- (3) At this stage, funding for Bushplan has been factored into the long-range financial plans of the Western Australian Planning Commission, which operates the metropolitan region improvement fund.