

CITY OF SOUTH PERTH, INQUIRY

Hon J.A. SCOTT to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development:

In regard to the inquiry into the City of South Perth in November 2001 -

- (1) Did the state executive of the Western Australian Local Government Association agree to the setting up of a single-person inquiry into the City of South Perth, or did the director of WALGA make that decision?
- (2) If the decision was made by the state executive, at what meeting was the decision made?
- (3) If the director made the decision unilaterally, was he acting within the Act?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1)-(3) I understand that the decision on whether a single-person inquiry should be held into the City of South Perth is the decision of the Minister for Local Government. If I choose the path of a single-person inquiry I need only consult with WALGA about the composition. I consulted WALGA. I have no knowledge how WALGA determined who would be the nominee for that appointment; that is not my responsibility. I have not inquired into it, nor should I. WALGA's process is a matter for WALGA.

Hon J.A. Scott interjected.

Hon TOM STEPHENS: No, it does not. It requires me to agree with WALGA. I had advice from WALGA that it had agreed. I have not been advised on the process it undertook in order to feel free to advise me of that; nor have I inquired into it as it is not appropriate.