

Greens actions demean their party

The tributes of condolence in our Parliament (*News*, 20/1) were moving and hopefully the forerunner of laws that will address radical Islam extremism and associated violence that Australians have witnessed over the past two years.

However, instead of treating this period of condolence respectfully, the Greens have again shown that they are incapable of expressing leadership and understanding.

Usual suspects such as Greens leader Larissa Waters and serial activist Senator Mehreen Faruqi decided to dive back into politics and demean the intent of the parliamentary session. Their respective responses instead turned again to vilifying Israel and self-serving agendas.

There are times when people should behave with dignity and respect but once again the Greens have shown that they are incapable of doing this.

George Bowden, Wembley

Evasive on all projects

There has been a litany of letters recently questioning projects being funded by the State Government — needs versus wants; borrowing \$5 billion; subsidies for various activities such as zoo and museum entry; and a number of unwanted projects such as the Burswood racetrack, one-off concerts, electric ferries and an overpriced rugby team.

There are more such as the recently completed \$300 million film studio (*News*, 20/1).

A key underlying theme of all of these projects is the absence of a transparent business plan. No business owner would expand without careful analysis of the costs and benefits and risks.



Senator Larissa Waters

The State Government should understand that the money it is spending is ours, not theirs. Failure to disclose the business plan by using ubiquitous terms such as “commercial in confidence” doesn’t pass the pub test and is downright evasive.

We deserve to know your KPIs and ongoing evaluation processes.

While it is true that not every government project will provide a direct commercial gain, there should be at least some ongoing substantial social gain for West Australians. One-off events do little or nothing to improve the lives of battling families. Even tourism figures are not showing substantial increases.

Roger and Rita, please get down to the core business of investing wisely and governing for all. Your lack of transparency is breathtaking. We own the “company” that you run and we vote at the “AGM” every four years!

John Nelson, Claremont

Just slow it down

There have been many letters pointing out the merits and disadvantages of immigration but the point being missed is that it is the speed at which immigration has increased that

is the problem. It is further aggravated by the numbers of “backdoor migrants” who slip through the cracks, large numbers of these arrive with a “student visa” which then allows them to apply for a permanent visa.

The speed of population growth must be stopped or at least slowed down and the only way to achieve this is having some form of moratorium (say, five years) on migration. I feel this is the only way to increase the availability of properties and though I don’t know the answer, I do know there are many well-paid bureaucrats sitting in government departments who should be applying themselves to the problem.

Joe Taylor, Balingup

Shark numbers a risk

Sharks are increasingly destroying fish stocks along our coast, affecting both the marine ecosystem and the livelihoods of recreational and commercial fishers.

This is not a new issue. Thirty years ago, bounties and fines were in place to control excessive shark numbers, and these measures helped maintain a healthier balance in our oceans.

Today, however, common sense has been replaced by inaction. While conservation is important, so too is responsible management.

Allowing unchecked shark populations to continue will only worsen the decline of fish life and further damage our coastal environment.

It is time for a balanced, science-based approach that protects both marine ecosystems and the people who depend on them.

Ivo Letari, Welshpool