

Another Opposition Motion. Another Win for WA!

Dear Gerry,

This week we were back in Parliament, and the Opposition secured another big win for accountability.

You will have seen the avalanche of headlines about the state of our health system. Every day seems to bring another story of crisis: record ramping hours, hospitals falling apart, long waitlists and exhausted staff.

That's why, over the past month, my updates have kept returning to this issue. It's a massive concern in our community, and it demands urgent action from a Premier who has so far been breathtakingly dismissive.



But while the media's focus was rightly on health, something significant happened in Parliament this week that didn't make the front page.

Every Wednesday when Parliament's Upper House is in session, a different Party has the opportunity to put forward a motion, take the floor and shape the agenda.

This past week was only the second time this year the Opposition have had that opportunity.

But once again, on your behalf, we made it count.

Back in May, we used our first opportunity to move that the government's shambolic rollout of new firearms laws be sent to a specialist parliamentary committee for review, ensuring that the voices of the public and stakeholders will finally be heard.

It was a great win for perseverance and for accountability. For more about the Firearms Review, see my update below.

Meanwhile, this week we used our second opportunity for the year to deliver another win for the people of WA to establish a Select Committee into Land Development and Planning.

This Select Committee will shine a light on how land and planning decisions are made in our State and ensure the government's decisions in this space will finally face the scrutiny they deserve.

Why does this matter?

Firstly, since the March election, one significant change has shifted the political landscape: the government no longer holds absolute control over the Upper House.

They can no longer simply rubber-stamp their own priorities without accountability.

This win matters because it shows that accountability and proper debate are back, which will ensure better decisions are made for the benefit of the people of WA.

Secondly, it matters because the core of this motion is about fair and equitable land transactions. Planning and development decisions affect every corner of our community, shaping where we live, work, and play. Western Australians deserve confidence that those decisions are made in the public interest: transparently, fairly, and with integrity.

If you have faced difficulty over a land transaction, questioned a planning decision or felt shut out of the process - this is your time to be heard.

Take for example the Government's highly controversial decision to build a motor **racetrack at Burswood**.

The Town of Victoria Park don't want it, the local community don't want it and the City of Wanneroo have said they'll have it.

What looks more and more like a personal obsession from Treasurer Saffioti will now all be placed under a microscope to see what is really going on.

Or take for example the years of exasperation for the residents in **Glen Iris**.

They've been frustrated by Labor's lack of information, transparency and accountability.

All they've ever asked for is accountability on Minister Saffioti's decision to ignore residents' concerns, override the City of Cockburn and unilaterally approve changes that resulted in the closure of their golf course - which was the very reason they bought their homes in that area.

Or take for example my constituent, Wayne.

He's been at loggerheads with the Government for years because they've interfered with his **private property rights** and are now stalling the process that would at least give him some compensation.

This Select Committee will help ensure that the voices of everyday Western Australians are not drowned out by a Cook Labor Government that has sadly allowed their political success to morph into extreme arrogance.

It's a major step towards restoring integrity and transparency to Government decision-making.

I'll keep you updated on when submissions open so you can share your experiences and help shape a better, fairer process.

Another big win for the people of Western Australia.

Stay tuned - we're just getting started.

Yours for a return to responsible government,



Nick Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Shadow Attorney General | Shadow Minister for Child Protection