



# MEDIA STATEMENT

RITA SAFFIOTI MLA  
MEMBER FOR WEST SWAN



Monday 4 July 2011

## **DOUBLE STANDARDS ON CONTRIBUTIONS – SMALL LANDOWNERS PAY, BILLIONAIRES DON'T**

West Swan MLA Rita Saffioti said the Barnett Government is taking families for granted by choosing not to include private funding towards a new sports stadium, likely to be built near Burswood.

Ms Saffioti made the comments in response to the Mr Barnett's statement that his Liberal Government will not request James Packer to contribute any money towards the associated infrastructure of a new stadium.

"A sports stadium at Burswood is going to cost an enormous amount of money," she said.

"Locating it at Burswood will mean that hundreds of millions of dollars will be required to upgrade roads, rail and pathways around the Burswood peninsula.

"Mr Barnett has personally chosen the most expensive and undefined option, an option that will benefit the Burswood Casino significantly."

Ms Saffioti contrasted this approach to that being taken by the Barnett Government and the City of Swan with small landowners in the West Swan East cell of the Swan Urban Growth Corridor.

Landowners in this area are expected to pay over \$30,000 per new lot that is created as part of the development. This funding is part of the Developer Contribution Plan the City of Swan administers for the purpose of paying for associated infrastructure, such as roads, pathways and other infrastructure.

"It appears Mr Barnett believes billionaires don't need to pay, but Mum and Dad's in West Swan have too," Ms Saffioti said.

Ms Saffioti said she believed the ultimate cost of the stadium and associated infrastructure could cost up to \$1.5 billion once construction begins.

"It will be Western Australian taxpayers that will have to pay for this enormous cost associated with the significant expense of choosing to locate the stadium at Burswood," she said.

"There is no doubt WA requires a new sports stadium, but at what cost?"

Ms Saffioti said that with net debt already forecast to hit \$22.4 billion, she was worried that it will be future generations paying for Mr Barnett's decisions.

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