

# MEDIA STATEMENT

**Dr Mike Nahan** MLA  
**Member for Riverton**



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## **City of Canning to Benefit from New Equitable Library Funding**

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton welcomed the State Government's decision to provide the State Library with a new, more equitable funding model for determining the allocation for each local government to purchase materials for their local public libraries.

Dr Nahan said the State Library and Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) had worked collaboratively to develop the new funding model, which will commence next month.

"The old allocation model lacked transparency and had a number of inconsistencies across local governments, so I am very pleased this much-needed reform is now under way," Dr Nahan said.

"The new model has been developed to ensure equity, with funding for each local government to be determined primarily by the resident population of that area. This will be a boon for the City of Canning."

"Over a 12-month period, application of the new model will result in 87 per cent of local governments receiving increased allocations relative to 2009-10.

"I commend both the State Library and WALGA for the excellent work they have done on this, and I am pleased that the State Library will continue to work with local governments to help with the transition to the new funding model."

Dr Nahan said the new funding model was the third major reform for public libraries this year.

"In May this year, the Liberal-National Government announced funding for local libraries will increase by more than 40 per cent to \$9.307million in 2010-11 and, for the first time ever, it will be indexed for the following three years," he said.

"In June, a new partnership agreement was signed between the State and local governments, which underpins the delivery of public library services across Western Australia."

"Public libraries are valued resources in our local area, and I am committed to providing the sustainable support that local libraries need."

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