



MEDIA STATEMENT

Tony Simpson MLA

Opposition Spokesperson for Information
and Communication Technology

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Logan gets it wrong

This is the Minister in charge of WA's commodities boom?

Opposition Spokesperson for IT and Communications Tony Simpson has attacked Industry and Enterprise Minister Fran Logan, stating that he isn't across the details of his own portfolio.

"This whole episode is a perfect example of how Fran Logan is totally out of his depth when it comes to his own Ministry," said Mr Simpson.

"On December 12 last year when he announced that Professor Beazley would be WA's new Chief Scientist, Minister Logan also stated that the Science Council and the Technology and Industry Advisory Council (TIAC) would be merged into a new science and innovation advisory body.

"What he didn't seem to realise at the time was that to abolish or alter TIAC would require an amendment or repeal of the Industry and Technology Development Act 1998.

"It was interesting at the time that he made no mention that such a change would be made to the Act.

"It was even more interesting that by early April of this year the Minister had still not announced his intention to change the Act.

"A little concerned that the Minister had forgotten his announcement of last year, I asked him whether he still had any intention to make any such changes.

"His answer, which I have just received, has stated that while a new body would still be set up and headed by Professor Beazley, TIAC will continue to operate as before.

"Logan claims this is due to changes in Ministerial responsibilities.

"If this is the case, why did he not announce it as publicly and proudly as his original announcement of last December?

"I think it has more to do with the fact that he didn't realise in the first place that he needed to alter legislation to put these changes through.

"This is a blatant example of Ministerial incompetence and Fran Logan and his boss, Alan Carpenter should be ashamed.

"If he cannot handle the legislative details of his own portfolio, how can we trust him to administer the important and economically sensitive areas of Energy, Resources, Industry and Enterprise?

"Minister Logan needs to do his homework better before he makes his next big announcement."

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