

Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP

Member for Stuart
Shadow Minister for Regional Development
Shadow Minister for Sport & Recreation
Shadow Minister for Racing

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Local CFS crews not consulted over Cadell Ferry as Weatherill Government redefines 'consultation'

In response to questioning by Member for Stuart Dan van Holst Pellekaan in Estimates today, Emergency Services Minister Rankine disclosed that she advised Transport Minister Conlon that closing the Cadell Ferry would have no 'big impact' on the Cadell community.

Minister Rankine said:

"I was advised that there would not necessarily be a big impact on that community by not having the ferry for the CFS." (Hansard, 21/06/12)

However, what she forgot was...to actually ask the Cadell, Morgan and Waikerie CFS brigades themselves as part of her consultation before advising the Transport Minister.

"Minister Rankine must come clean and tell the public how far down the chain she consulted," Mr van Holst Pellekaan said.

"In my opinion, no one would know better than the local CFS brigades whose operations will be impacted by the potential ferry closure.

"The Minister's opinion is completely at odds with that of local CFS volunteers.

"I don't doubt the Minister consulted with someone over the closure of Cadell Ferry, but bureaucrats in Adelaide are not sufficient.

"The Weatherill Government is redefining the meaning of 'consultation' on the Cadell Ferry issue.

"Minister Conlon can try and take the blame for this all of government fiasco, but, in a very Rann-like performance, it is Premier Weatherill who has gone totally missing on this issue."

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