



‘Take Keep Cott Low seriously’

By JON BASSETT

THE State Government's proposed changes to Cottesloe's Town Planning Scheme No. 3 (TPS3) could be subject to a Parliament committee inquiry.

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs chairman Brian Ellis said a decision could take months, after Keep Cott Low (KCL) president John Hammond offered to be a witness in a KCL submission to the committee last week.

Mr Ellis, the Mid-West MLC, said his committee would now write to State Government departments asking for replies to KCL's 11-point submission objecting to the proposed changes.

The objections concerned the Government's proposed rewrite of Cottesloe's unconfirmed TPS3 and followed KCL's 14,000-signature petition against proposed high-rise beach developments last month.

"If the committee is not happy with the replies we get, then we can call an inquiry," Mr Ellis said. "But it could be a couple of months before we get the replies back."

The committee – which includes Liberal Phil Edman, National Colin Holt, Labor's Kate Doust and Green Lynn MacLaren – is dealing with about 35 other petitions and inquiries into alleged Cockburn Cement pollution, and the death of Aboriginal man Mr Ward in a Goldfields prison van. Mr Ellis said petitions had to be prioritised to decide which needed further inquiry.

Mr Hammond said the committee needed to hear about the depth of anger of WA citizens towards the government's plans.

"The Keep Cott Low petition should be taken very seriously as it is among the largest petitions presented to the Parliament in the last decade," he said.