



Premier running scared: Ellis

THE Shadow Minister for the Mid West has thrown down the election gauntlet, as Premier Alan Carpenter yesterday announced WA would go the polls on September 6.

Speaking to the *Geraldton Guardian* Liberal Member for the Agricultural Region Brian Ellis accused the Premier of running scared of a new re-energised State Liberal Party.

“I find it very surprising for Carpenter — a man who says he believes in full-length terms —

to call an early election,” he said.

“I think he’s running a bit scared because we have a new leader and he wants to make sure the new leader doesn’t make any inroads.

“But we are confident the Government’s bad performance will make our task easier.

“Speaking as the Shadow Minister for the Mid West — I believe the Carpenter Government has mishandled the resources boom and I’m wor-

ried he could similarly mishandle the emerging Mid West resources boom.”

The election announcement came one day after Colin Barnett was re-elected leader of the Opposition, with speculation that Mr Carpenter was keen to exploit any Liberal Party uncertainty following the leadership change.

Both parties will have 31 days to campaign.

— Alex Munro