

## Keen cyclists are masters of the track



The world came to Bass Hill last week for the UCI Track Cycling Masters World Championships. Sponsored by Bankstown Sports, the event attracted keen cyclists from 25 countries, including Australia's Keith Oliver, who grew up at Punchbowl, pictures leading the 65 to 69 age category sprint semi-finals. See more images from the event at [www.theexpress.com.au](http://www.theexpress.com.au)

Picture: DARREN EDWARDS

# Perry asked to look in to council time

**KIM SHAW**  
State Parliament

THE Opposition has asked the Local Government Minister Barbara Perry to investigate her old stomping ground, Canterbury Council, over the number of "two minute" meetings and amount of leave taken by councillors.

During a parliamentary hearing on local government, Liberal MLC John Ajaka asked Ms Perry if she was aware that Canterbury Council held 33 meetings in 2007, seven of which ran for "two to three minutes".

"On a further fourteen occasions council met for less than ten minutes," Mr Ajaka said.

"You have the local newspaper calling Canterbury Council 'the chamber of secrets'. Are you saying that there is no concurring, that development applications aren't pre-determined?"

Ms Perry said she had been given no details about the meetings but meeting agendas were posted on the council website and the public could attend.

Local Government Department director Garry Payne said

councils were required to hold a minimum of ten meetings a year.

"What about the other (longer) meetings?" Mr Payne asked in response to the questions.

When asked why his department had not investigated in relation to the amount of leave taken by the mayor, Mr Payne said he had 1300 councillors to keep track of.

He said he was not aware of any complaints made to his department in relation to Canterbury Council.

Liberal MLC Don Harwin asked why none of the recommendations in the 2007 Promoting Better Practice review of Canterbury Council had been implemented.

"Is it because there is a Labor mayor?" Mr Harwin asked.

Ms Perry said that was "entirely irrelevant" and her role was legislation and policy framework and that meetings were "operational".

"My role is to look at systems of better practice," Ms Perry said.

Ms Perry was a Canterbury councillor for four and a half years.