

SHACK SITE COMMUNITIES — WEDGE AND GREY ISLANDS

4888. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment

I refer to the shacks at Wedge Island and Grey Island, and ask —

- (1) Since 1 January 2011, what formal or informal consultations, discussions or other communications has the Minister had with —
 - (a) shack owners;
 - (b) local government; or
 - (c) other stakeholders?
- (2) In relation to (1), have any of these consultations, discussions or communications involved members of the —
 - (a) 500 Club;
 - (b) other political stakeholders;
 - (c) developers; or
 - (d) fundraising bodies?
- (3) Following the release of the 2011 parliamentary inquiry into shack sites in Western Australia, has the Minister commissioned any further investigations into or received any reports about the future of the shacks at these two locations?
- (4) If yes to (3), who is carrying out the investigations or reports, when will the findings be available and will the Minister make the findings public?
- (5) If no to (3), what is the Government doing to undertake the promised examination of the planning, environmental, safety, health and building requirements for the sites and assessment of the shacks current standards?
- (6) How many abandoned or newly-erected shacks have been removed since 30 August 2011?
- (7) Is the Minister aware of any plans by third parties to develop the areas in question?
- (8) How much has the Government collected in 2011 in fees, rents and other charges paid by shack owners?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

- (1) (a)–(b) The Minister for Environment had no meetings with shack owners, however staff from his office have met with representatives from the Wedge Island Protection Association and Grey Conservation and Community Association on numerous occasions throughout the year. The Minister met with Dandaragan Shire Council representatives on 24 March 2011. The Minister also responded to correspondence from shack owners and the Shire of Dandaragan.
 - (c) Nil
- (2) (a) No
 - (b) Grant Woodhams on 24 March 2011
 - (c)–(d) No
- (3)–(5) The Department of Environment and Conservation has commenced a review of information held by Government agencies and a process to collate information to address environmental and social factors and ensure adequate planning and consultation, which will inform the further investigations. Further investigations are planned but no studies have been commissioned since the release of the Standing Committee's report on shack sites.
- (6) Nil
- (7) No
- (8) \$339 092 has been collected by the Department of Environment and Conservation from 1 January 2011 to 8 November 2011.