Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 6 March 2012] p582b-583a Hon Dr Sally Talbot; Hon Peter Collier

DENMARK CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

4. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Education:

I refer to the minister's decision to evict the Centre for Sustainable Living in Denmark from its premises in order to provide temporary accommodation for classes during the refurbishment of Denmark High School.

- (1) Did what the minister has said was "wide consultation about the use of the centre building" include consultation with the Denmark Education and Innovation Centre, the controlling body of the Centre for Sustainable Living?
- (2) If yes to (1), when were the consultations held and what was the outcome; and, if no, why not?
- (3) Have any discussions been held with the Centre for Sustainable Living or with the Denmark Education and Innovation Centre about ways to provide temporary accommodation to house classes for the period of the refurbishment without evicting the centre?
- (4) If yes to (3), what was the outcome and; if no, why not?
- (5) Has the promised meeting between Mr Milan Trifunovic of the Department of Education and the Green Skills project management at the centre taken place?
- (6) If yes to (5), what was the outcome; and, if no, when will it take place?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

(1)–(6) The Minister for Education has not made a decision to evict the Denmark Education and Innovation Centre. DEIC has a monthly periodic lease over the site and was advised in October 2011 that the lease would not be extended beyond June 2012. Despite the honourable member's lack of clarity in part (1) of her question, the Minister for Education was advised by the Department of Education as follows —

Since late 2010, the principal has consulted widely with the school council and the parents and citizens association, the regional executive director and various members of the Department of Education regarding the use of these facilities for school operations. Flowing from this consultation, DEIC was advised that its lease would not be extended beyond June 2012.

The school requires these facilities to provide accommodation for students while the \$7 million capital works upgrade at the school is being carried out, and for future uses by the school.

A meeting will take place later this month.