

CARAVAN PARKS AND CAMPING GROUNDS REGULATIONS 1997

727. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to changes to the Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Regulations 1997, particularly clause 5A of schedule 7, which provides that the maximum length of stay is to be 28 days in any three-month period in a nature-based park.

- (1) Were all local governments made aware of this change?
- (2) What form of notification was used to notify local government of this change?
- (3) Have any local governments sought a moratorium in relation to this change?
- (4) Is the Minister for Local Government aware of concern about this change?
- (5) What is the minister doing to address this concern?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(2) All local governments were formally made aware of the change in circular 32–2014 issued by the director general of the Department of Local Government and Communities on 9 December 2014. That circular advised of the changes that would take effect from 1 January 2015. Local governments had previously been made aware of the review of the regulations and were invited to participate in it in circulars dated 15 November 2013 and 21 January 2014.
- (3) No local government has sought a moratorium in relation to the change, although one local government, the City of Karratha, has applied to the Minister for Local Government for an exemption from applying the restriction on length of stay in a nature-based park for 2015 at two facilities within its district.
- (4) The minister is aware that people who have previously stayed for extended periods in one of two nature-based parks in the City of Karratha are unhappy with the restrictions on their stay and the lack of notification by the city of this change. The minister is also aware of the support from other users and potential users for the restriction on length of stay, which allows them to also access these facilities for their holidays.
- (5) The minister has determined that an exemption from compliance with this provision is not in the public interest. The minister is sympathetic to these campers and has asked the City of Karratha to not move on any of the current occupiers within two weeks of receiving the letter of advice. They are able to make use of the other nature-based park within the City of Karratha or any other caravan park.