

TASK FORCES, TERMS OF REFERENCE, BUDGETS, MEMBERSHIP AND REPORTS

1543. Mr Graham to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Since 10 Feb 2001 -

- (a) how many task forces chaired by Members of Parliament have been instigated in the Minister's areas of portfolio responsibility;
- (b) what are the terms of reference of each task force;
- (c) does each task force have its own budget;
- (d) if the answer to (c) is yes, how much is the budget for each task force;
- (e) if the answer to (c) is no, how are the costs of each task force being met, and what is the cost of each task force;
- (f) on what date is each task force required to report;
- (g) who is the chair of each task force;
- (h) are any other Members of Parliament involved with the task force;
- (i) if the answer to (h) is yes, which particular members are involved;
- (j) will the reports of each task force be made public;
- (k) if the answer to (j) is yes, how will each task force report be released to the public; and
- (l) if the answer to (j) is no, what are the reasons for not releasing the reports of each task force?

Dr EDWARDS replied:

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE:

- (a) None.
- (b)-(l) Not applicable.

BOTANIC GARDENS AND PARKS AUTHORITY:

- (a) Nil.
- (b)-(l) Not applicable.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT:

This answer was prepared in liaison with the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Water and Rivers Commission.

- (a) The Carbon Rights Task Force.
- (b) The purpose of the Task Force was to draft legislation to establish carbon rights, providing certainty and thereby promoting the environmental and economic benefits from plantations and land use changes for carbon sequestration.
- (c) No.
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) Costs are being met from portfolio budget: Department of Environment, Water and Catchment Protection and the Department of Conservation and Land Management; total financial expenditure estimated at \$5,000.
- (f) No date set. The Bill is to be introduced this session.
- (g) Mr Francis Logan MLA.
- (h) No.
- (i) Not applicable.
- (j) Yes.
- (k) The Carbon Rights Task Force has already released a public discussion paper. The final result will be a Bill which will be made public upon introduction to the Parliament.
- (l) Not applicable.

THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF WA:

- (a) Nil.
- (b)-(l) Not applicable.

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

- (a) Nil.
- (b)-(l) Not applicable.

THE OFFICE OF WATER REGULATION:

- (a) Nil.
- (b)-(l) Not applicable.

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE WATER AND RIVERS COMMISSION:

This answer was prepared in liaison with the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

- (a) The Department of Environmental Protection advises that there is one task force chaired by Members of Parliament in the Minister's areas of portfolio responsibility, this being the Carbon Rights Taskforce.
- (b) The purpose of the task force was to draft legislation to establish carbon rights, providing certainty and thereby promoting the environmental and economic benefits from plantations and land use changes for carbon sequestration.
- (c) No.
- (d) Answered by (c).
- (e) Work of the task force is met by the agencies of the member and especially the office of the Minister for Agriculture (Board Room for meetings) and the Department of Environmental Protection (limited executive support).
- (f) No date set - Bill to be introduced in this session of parliament.
- (g) Mr Fran Logan MLA, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- (h) No other Members of Parliament are involved with the task force.
- (i) Not applicable.
- (j)-(k) The Carbon Rights Task Force has already released a public discussion paper. The final result will be a Bill which will be made public upon introduction to the Parliament.
- (l) Not applicable.

THE PERTH ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS:

- (a) None.
- (b)-(l) Not applicable.