

ROTTNEST ISLAND, NEW MOORING SYSTEM, TRIAL

2476. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism

I refer to the 12 months trial plan for a new mooring system at Rottnest Island and ask will the Minister advise -

- (a) what does this plan entail;
- (b) when will it commence and conclude;
- (c) what form of evaluation is planned for the trial;
- (d) when will the results of that evaluation be made public; and
- (e) how much revenue will be raised by this new system in comparison with the old mooring system?

Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:

- (a) The trial of the new mooring system at Rottnest Island retains the pre-existing categories of mooring users – Licensees and Authorised Users – but increases access to moorings by extending the right of those users and the method of allocation of Authorised Users.  
  
Licensees are required to have Authorised Users and may continue to nominate them. The Authority can also allocate Authorised users to moorings to increase access. Authorised Users may have access to several recreational moorings.  
  
Under the trial of the new mooring system at Rottnest Island, Licensees and Authorised Users have the right to access the moorings they are assigned, as well as have Casual User access to all other recreational moorings under a colour coding system.  
  
Licensees retain priority access to their own mooring over all other users. Authorised Users have priority access to those moorings they have nominated and are authorised to use over Casual Users.
- (b) The trial of the new mooring system commenced on 1 September 2003 and will conclude on 31 August 2004.
- (c) Recommendation 99 of the Rottnest Island Taskforce Report –“Open for Business – A Sustainable Future for Rottnest”, which has been accepted by the Government, indicates that “the Mooring Trial System continue, and this be fully evaluated by the Authority prior to any further recommendations being made in relation to the management of moorings”. Therefore, evaluation of the trial of the new mooring system will consider:
  - overall increase in access to private recreational moorings;
  - number of new participants in the trial and those exiting the current system;
  - written comments/submissions;
  - operational factors.
- (d) Evaluation results from the trial of the new mooring system will be available after August 2004.
- (e) Total increased revenue from the trial of the new mooring system is forecast at \$342,000 in 2003/2004 based on the increase in the Mooring Licence Fee and the introduction of an Authorised User Fee.