

DAIRY INDUSTRY, DIFFICULTIES FACED BY PRODUCERS

**4. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:**

The minister would be aware of the current difficulties facing producers in the dairy industry, and the report of the parliamentary committee tabled in the Legislative Assembly late last year that canvassed these issues and made certain recommendations. What actions have the minister and the Government taken, or do they intend to take, to respond to the report and the current issues facing the dairy industry?

**Hon KIM CHANCE replied:**

I thank Hon Barry House for his question. I will be responding, as I am required to do, in a formal sense this week. As it is a Legislative Assembly committee report, my response will be given in the Legislative Assembly by the member for Cockburn. I expect that I will make a similar response here on the same day. The recommendations of the Legislative Assembly's standing committee, as the member would be aware, are quite widespread and numerous. It would be difficult for me to go through the detail of those recommendations and the Government's response in precise detail. I can say in general terms that the Government has accepted most, if not all, of the committee's recommendations. The implementation of many of the recommendations is already in train. A large number of the recommendations rely on the State's liaison with the Commonwealth Government, particularly those relating to matters arising from DSAP - the dairy structural adjustment program. Of the recommendations the implementation of which are within the State's control, most, if not all, that have been accepted by the State Government have already been progressed to some degree.

I regret that I cannot tell the member much beyond that because of the detail that is involved, except to advise that I will give a formal government response this week - probably on Thursday.