

REVIEWS, COMMITTEES, INQUIRIES AND TASK FORCES, ESTABLISHMENT

1631. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

- (1) Since the election of the State Labor Government how many reviews, committees, inquiries and taskforces have been established in the Minister's portfolio?
- (2) Will the Minister list the reviews, committees, inquiries and taskforces that have been established?
- (3) Will the Minister list the commencement date and the completion date for each review, committee, inquiry and taskforce?

Dr EDWARDS replied:

BOTANIC GARDENS AND PARKS AUTHORITY:

1. One.
2. Review of Statutory Authority.
3. Commencement: 20 December 2001. Completion: 19 February 2002.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT:

The Department routinely creates taskforces or committees to facilitate delivery of the outputs for which it has responsibility and may create ad hoc or ongoing consultative bodies to provide for stakeholder and public input into Departmental processes. The Department also has membership of a range of across Government bodies responsible for providing coordinated policy advice and policy implementation actions.

- (1) Six.
- (2) Internal Review of Fire Management Practices and Fire Symposium
To review the Department's fire management practices. The fire symposium was held in April 2002 to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of scientific and policy issues relating to fire management.
- (3) March 2001 – April 2002
- (2) Chief Executive Officers' Coordination Committee on Implementation of the Protecting our old-growth forests policy
To coordinate implementation of the policy across agencies and support the Cabinet Sub Committee directing implementation of the policy.
- (3) April 2001 - ongoing
- (2) National Competition Policy Legislation Review of the Wildlife Conservation Act and its Subsidiary Legislation
To review the legislation in accordance with State/Commonwealth National Competition Policy arrangements.
- (3) March 2002 to July 2002
- (2) Processes under the Protecting our old-growth forests policy and preparation of the Forest Management Plan
 - (i) Review of stream and river logging buffers to ensure their adequacy in protecting our waterways from salinity, degradation and turbidity.
 - (ii) Assessment of the scientific, economic and community values and the impact of logging on salinity of areas subject to a moratorium on logging.
 - (iii) Review of high conservation value areas in the south-west forest to determine whether further areas should be reserved.
 - (iv) Report on the environmental impacts of silvicultural treatments applied to jarrah forests (Ministerial Condition 11) Part 1.
 - (v) Update of silvicultural guidelines and review submissions on the draft guidelines – collate, update and consolidate the silvicultural guidelines currently used by the Department of Conservation and Land Management for the management of native forests available for timber production in the south-west.

- (vi) Review of structural goals for jarrah and karri forest and advise on their applicability to the new forest management plan.
- (vii) Expert Working Group to design a trial of the "Protocol for the identification and prioritisation for management of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* 'protectable areas'.
- (3)
 - (i) March 2001 – August 2001
 - (ii) May 2001 to August 2002
 - (iii) December 2001 to March 2002
 - (iv) July 2001 to October 2001
 - (v) July 2001 to June 2002
 - (vi) February 2002 to March 2002
 - (vii) November 2001 to June 2002
- (2) Tuart Response Group
To coordinate agency action on the decline in tuart health and to devise a Tuart Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan.
- (3) January 2002 - ongoing
- (2) Community Consultation Processes
To facilitate the creation of the Walpole Wilderness Area and new national parks under the Protecting our old-growth forests policy.
- (3) November 2001

THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF WA:

- (1) Two.
- (2)
 - (i) Round Table
 - (ii) Forest Management Plan Steering Committee
- (3)
 - (i) 1st August 2001 to completion of Forest Management Plan.
 - (ii) 4th April 2001 to completion of Forest Management Plan.

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

- 1) The Heritage Council has been involved in 2 reviews since February 2001, at the direction of the Minister.
- 2)
 - (i) A review of the Heritage Council's assessment and registration procedures, completed in April 2001.
 - (ii) A review of the Heritage Council's operations, as required of all agencies as a result of the 2001 Machinery of Government report. The results of the review were submitted to the Minister for consideration in February 2002.
- 3) Both reviews were conducted internally and did not incur any costs.

THE OFFICE OF WATER REGULATION:

None.

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

- (1) 6
- (2)-(3) Carbon Rights Taskforce
Commenced: March 2001.
Completion date: Will depend on the Carbon Rights Bill being passed through Parliament.
Independent Committee on Watsons Foods Odour Issue
Commenced: 8 August 2001.
Completion date: Unknown.
Waste Management Board
Commenced: 2 January 2002.
Completion date: Statutory status will be given under the proposed Waste Management Bill.
Swan River Trust

Commenced: 20 February 2002

Completion date: 30 April 2002

Waste Management and Recycling Fund Grant Funded Projects

Commenced: 4 February 2002

Completion date: 7 June 2002

Stream and River Logging Buffers in Western Australia

Commenced: February 2001

Completion date: August 2001

THE PERTH ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS:

- (1) One.
- (2) Since the election of the State Labor Government, Perth Zoo has undertaken one internal review of the agency as a Statutory Authority. This was consistent with recommendation nine of the Machinery of Government Report.
- (3) The Review of Statutory Authorities was announced by Government in October 2001 and the outcome of Perth Zoo's internal review was forwarded by way of a submission to me in March 2002.