

COUNTRY HOUSING AUTHORITY

**132. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Housing and Works:**

Given the dramatic escalation of building costs, will the minister please provide a detailed explanation as to why grants of \$50 000 from the Country Housing Authority to regional local governments have not increased since 2000?

**Hon KATE DOUST replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

Since 2000, grants have been generally \$50 000. Smaller grants have been provided if a housing project is in a relatively less remote area of the state and/or the cost of the housing project is low comparatively. Demand for grants in any funding release is not known until all submissions are received. This can also affect the size of the grant provided. In past funding releases, all grant allocations have been accepted indicating that the amount provided has been of sufficient incentive for a housing project to proceed.