

UNIONS, RIGHT OF ENTRY TO BUILDING SITES

1274. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection

I refer the Minister to the Master Builders Association of Western Australia Industrial Circular No 160/2001 and the concern that the building industry have in respect to union right of entry and ask -

- (a) is the Minister aware of reports that the Building Industry and Special Projects Inspectorate attending building sites have been unwilling or unable to clarify with the Western Australian Police Service what union right of entry provisions mean and how they ought to be applied as the Courts have determined;
- (b) if so, what action has the Minister taken to ensure that the Inspectorate does know what the union rights of entry provisions are and how they should be applied;
- (c) how can the Building and Construction Industry have confidence in the Inspectorate if they fail in this test; and
- (d) if not, will the Minister make inquiries in respect to the reports and take appropriate action?

Mr KOBELKE replied:

- (a)-(d) The Master Builders Association has written to me expressing their concerns about understandings regarding right of entry. The Building Industry and Special Projects Inspectorate is fully aware of union right of entry provisions and their application, and is continuing consultations with unions, builders and the Western Australian Police Service to assist all parties in regard to right of entry issues.