

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES - VISITOR PROTOCOLS

1259. Hon SHELLEY ARCHER to the minister representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs:

I am aware that protocols have been put in place in some remote Aboriginal communities to deal with the coordination of government agencies visiting their communities.

- (1) Has the Department of Indigenous Affairs been given the lead role in developing these protocols?
- (2) Which communities have been consulted about these protocols and have they agreed to the protocols?
- (3) What evaluation has taken place to ensure the protocols are working successfully?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

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

On behalf of the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, I provide the following response.

- (1) In 2006 the Department of Indigenous Affairs initiated the development of visitor protocols with the Kalumburu, Warmun and Oombulgurri communities for the purpose of coordinating and rationalising the demand and impact on the communities' time by external agencies and various other stakeholders.
- (2) The Department of Indigenous Affairs consulted with the Kalumburu, Warmun and Oombulgurri communities as part of the process in establishing protocols that were agreed to by all three communities.
- (3) In order to revise and amend the agreed protocols to reflect and address concerns of the communities, the Department of Indigenous Affairs has undertaken a consultative process with the communities and has drafted new protocols that are awaiting approval by the community councils. This process is estimated to be finalised by early 2008.