

“HIGH GLEE” PROPERTY AT DUNSBOROUGH, SALE INQUIRY

1113. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the minister representing the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection:

- (1) Why has it taken so long for the Real Estate and Business Agents Supervisory Board to prepare and conduct an inquiry into the sale of the “High Glee” property at Dunsborough?
- (2) When will the appropriate notice of inquiry for hearing before the board be submitted?
- (3) When will the board report on this matter?

Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS replied:

- (1) The Real Estate and Business Agents Supervisory Board received independent legal advice on this matter in November 2000. At the board meeting of 25 January 2001, the board reviewed the advice together with a report from the board’s registrar and requested an application for inquiry be drafted and submitted to the board. In March 2001, the board’s registrar referred the matter to the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection’s legal services unit for drafting of the application for inquiry and notice of inquiry. This matter also related to a complaint against a land valuer, which was also investigated by the department. Advice was prepared on the land valuer’s matter in May 2001 and thereafter these files were required for the Royal Commission into the Finance Broking Industry. Following the completion of the royal commission, the Real Estate and Business Agents Supervisory Board retrieved the files relating to the complaint against the real estate agent and referred this matter to the board’s legal officer. The files relating to the land valuer complaint have been referred to the department’s legal and prosecution services unit for consideration of expert evidence.
- (2) It is anticipated that an application for inquiry and draft notice will be submitted to the board for consideration at that meeting on 31 May 2002.
- (3) If the application is approved by the board, a first mention of the real estate matter will be listed approximately four to six weeks thereafter. At the first mention a plea will be entered and, if necessary, directions will be given and a hearing date will be set.