

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, BUILDING LAWS, ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS

318. Hon C L Edwardes to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

I refer the minister to Labor's Sustainable Energy Policy, and ask -

- (a) has a process been put in place to work with Local Councils to implement improved energy efficiency standards for new buildings and renovations in planning and building laws;
- (b) if not, when does the minister expect such a process to be put in place;
- (c) if so, what process has been put in place;
- (d) will industry and consumers be involved as well as Local Government;
- (e) when does the minister expect this process to be completed; and
- (f) will these proposed changes be reflected in the new Residential Design Codes?

Ms MacTIERNAN replied:

These questions in respect of building standards should be addressed to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development. The Residential Design Codes relate to the siting of dwellings rather than their construction standard. However, the extent to which buildings block solar access of adjacent properties was a matter included in the draft R-Codes and I would expect this matter to be addressed in the final R-Codes.