

PLANNING, DELAY IN OBTAINING SIGNATURE OF MINISTER'S DELEGATE

2284. Mr M.G. House to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) Is the Minister aware that, in order to effect the recent settlement of an apartment sale at Challenge Harbour Executive Apartments, Mews Road, Fremantle, which, being subject to a 99-year lease, requires the consent of the Minister, the process to obtain the required signature of the Minister's delegate took 69 days?
- (2) Does the Minister believe that a process which takes 69 days to provide a signature to effect the sale and settlement of an apartment is commercially acceptable practice?
- (3) How will the Minister ensure that future transactions of a similar nature that require the delegated signature of the Minister will be processed in a more timely way?

Ms A.J. MacTIERNAN replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No.
- (3) The Department for Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) has suitable processes in place.

The DPI has contracted commercial property managers that process lease and associated documentation on behalf of the DPI in line with commercially acceptable practice.

The Assignment of Lease documents that the Member is referring to were first received by the DPI's solicitor for perusal on approximately 4 August 2003.

Along with the Assignment of Lease documents there was also a Mortgage Consent Agreement submitted which required amendment. The documents were returned to the applicant's Solicitor on 20 August 2003 to make the changes. Both the Mortgage Consent and the Assignment of Lease documentation were to be processed at the same time but due to the anticipated time that the amendments would take, it was decided to process the Assignment of Lease separately.

The Assignment of Lease was forwarded to DPI's property managers on 2 October 2003. The documents were executed by my delegate and forwarded on 20 October 2003 to the DPI's solicitor for assessment of stamp duty.