

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE 282

Answer Advice

HON SALLY TALBOT (South West — Parliamentary Secretary) [5.07 pm]: Yesterday Hon Paul Llewellyn asked me a question of which he thought notice had been given, and in fact it had not. It was question without notice 282. The Minister for the Environment has, however, today provided me with a response, which I seek leave to have incorporated into *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The following material was incorporated —

I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question. The Minister for the Environment has provided an answer in the following terms.

- (1) No.
 - (2) Not applicable.
 - (3) Kangaroo young in a population that are not using the pouch are considered to be capable of surviving if an adult female is shot. The shooters assess whether young are pouch dependent. This is a reasonably simple matter for those experienced in the field.
 - (4) There is no evidence of significant non-compliance with the code or of clearly dependent young being abandoned.
 - (5) The Minister has been advised by the Department of Environment and Conservation that dependent offspring are killed humanely with a sharp blow to the back of the head or shot.
 - (6) There is no evidence to support that contention.
 - (7) Kangaroos are shot for a sustainable commercial harvest as well as to provide population control to reduce damage to primary production. Shooting of males, females and dependent young is consistent with these objectives. To ensure continued conservation of the harvested species, commercial quotas are routinely kept below 20% of the adult population. Populations are routinely monitored by aerial survey.
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