

MAGISTRATE - KIMBERLEY

1208. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the minister representing the Attorney General:

The state government recently appointed Magistrate Robert Young to work alongside, and eventually succeed, Kimberley Magistrate Antoine Bloemen upon his retirement in May 2008. Given that the need for a second permanent magistrate in the Kimberley has been acknowledged by the Attorney General, as reported in the *Broome Advertiser* of 2 August 2007, and was a key recommendation of the Kimberley Aboriginal reference group in 2005, what action, if any, has been taken to appoint a second permanent magistrate by May 2008?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. The Department of the Attorney General is constantly monitoring needs for additional magistrates throughout the state.