

LOCAL GOVERNMENT — TOWN OF PORT HEDLAND — COUNCIL

4795. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to an ABC media report in December 2018 that a mentor to the Town of Port Hedland, Mr Ron Yuryevich, had recommended the council's dismissal and ask:

- (a) Did Mr Yuryevich write to the Minister, Ministerial office or any senior departmental staff recommending the council be dismissed:
  - (i) If yes, when did the Minister or his senior departmental staff receive the letter; and
  - (ii) What was the response from the Minister or his senior departmental staff;
- (b) What were the reasons behind Mr Yuryevich's recommendation;
- (c) What actions did the Minister or any of his senior departmental staff take in response to Mr Yuryevich's recommendation;
- (d) Will the Minister dismiss the council in response to Mr Yuryevich's recommendation;
- (e) Has the Minister or any of his senior departmental staff written to the council and councillors advising them of the decision; and
- (f) Is Mr Yuryevich still working with the council as a mentor:
  - (i) If not, when did he cease involvement with the council?

**Mr D.A. Templeman replied:**

- (a) A report was provided to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries outlining observations relating to the functioning of Council that included a recommendation of dismissal.
  - (i) The report was received by the Department on 17 December 2018.
  - (ii) No formal response was provided.
- (b) Concerns were raised in relation to leadership, leaking of confidential information and code of conduct not being adhered to.
- (c) The report is being considered in conjunction with other material collected through normal operations of monitoring the Town.
- (d) The Department is currently considering all possible courses of action and will provide advice to the Minister.
- (e) No.
- (f) No, the report finalised his involvement with the Town.
  - (i) Not applicable.