

FISHERIES, DIXON, MR THOMAS JOHN

1398. Hon MARK NEVILL to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Fisheries:

Further to unanswered question on notice 1303 of December 15 1994, can the Minister for Fisheries now advise

- (1) Was Mr Thomas John Dixon of Midland under official investigation at any time for any offence by Fisheries Department officers?
- (2) If so, when and what was the result of the investigation?
- (3) Is the Minister for Fisheries or are senior Fisheries Department officers aware that a Fisheries officer took the wife of Mr Dixon to the Midland Police Station for questioning?
- (4) Was the use of the Midland Police Station approved by the Police Officer in Charge for this purpose?
- (5) Is the Minister or are senior Fisheries Department officers aware that a Fisheries officer questioned Mr Dixon's wife at the Midland Police Station about her ability to obtain a loan to satisfy her husband's alleged indebtedness to the Fisheries officer's father?
- (6) Is the Minister or are senior officers in the department aware that a Department of Fisheries officer approached the Home Building Society and got permission to inspect the account of Mr Thomas John Dixon because he was under investigation by the Fisheries Department?
- (7) Is the Minister or are senior Fisheries Department officers aware that the same Fisheries officer took Mr Dixon's wife to a branch of the Home Building Society to obtain a loan?
- (8) What authority did the Fisheries Department officer have to force Mr Dixon's wife to go to the Police Station or to Home Building Society?
- (9) Is the Minister or are Senior Fisheries Department officers aware that the same Fisheries Department officer showed his Fisheries Department identification to the staff of the Home Building Society staff and acting on this representation, the staff released Mr Dixon's savings records to the Fisheries officer?
- (10) Is the Minister or are Senior Fisheries officers aware that the same Fisheries officer supplied this information to the solicitors Messrs Bayly & O'Brien who were acting for his father, and that the same solicitors then issued a garnishee action against Mr Dixon?
- (11) Were the actions of the Fisheries Department officer investigated by the Fisheries Department, and if so, what was the outcome of the investigation?
- (12) Was the matter investigated by the Police Department?
- (13) If so, what was the outcome of the investigation?
- (14) What specific action was taken against the Fisheries Department officer concerned?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I refer the member to my response to his question, which was tabled in Parliament on 23 May 1995. As the events in question occurred during the term of the previous Government I suggest that the Member take up my previous offer and seek a personal briefing from the Executive Director of Fisheries WA on the matter.