

CULLACABARDEE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY — STATUS

6563. Ms R. Saffioti to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

With regard to the Cullacabardee Aboriginal Community, I ask:

- (a) can the Minister explain what the current status of the community is;
- (b) what role does the Department of Indigenous Affairs have in respect to the community;
- (c) are there plans to demolish any housing in the community; and
- (d) what is the future of the community?

Mr M.J. COWPER replied:

- (a) Cullacabardee is self-managed by Cullacabardee Aboriginal Corporation which is an entity incorporated under the Commonwealth's Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006. The community is located on Reserve 37145 with the Management Order to the Aboriginal Lands Trust (ALT).
- (b) The Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) provides administrative and operational support for the ALT and occasionally attends the community to assist with resolution of property and infrastructure issues.
- (c) Houses considered beyond repair and that are a serious safety concern to residents have been demolished in the past. DIA has been advised by the community Chairperson that two dwellings were recently vacated and DIA is engaging a building inspector to assess whether the dwellings are safe for human occupation. They may be demolished if it is necessary.
- (d) Cullacabardee reserve is on environmentally sensitive land which is not deemed suitable for long term community housing. DIA will continue to engage with the local Noongar community for plans for the future use and remediation of the reserve.