

WATER CORPORATION, ALLANOOKA PROPERTY LEASE

168. Hon KIM CHANCE to the minister representing the Minister for Water Resources:

I refer to the lease of the Water Corporation's property "Water Valley" at Allanooka.

- (1) Is this property leased for grazing purposes?
- (2) If so, will the minister table the following information:
 - (a) the name of the lessee;
 - (b) when the lease term began;
 - (c) how many years the lease and option of renewal extend; and
 - (d) the annual rent?
- (3) Were tenders called for the lease?
- (4) If so, will the minister table the annual rental that was offered by the other tenderers?
- (5) Did the lessee have access to the property prior to the beginning of the current lease term?
- (6) If so, what rental was paid during that period of occupation?
- (7) What price did the Water Corporation pay for the property?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Yes; by the Water and Rivers Commission.
- (2)
 - (a) Astrik Pty Ltd;
 - (b) 1 September 2000;
 - (c) five years with an option to extend for a further five years;
 - (d) \$22 000 per annum to 30 June 2003, whereupon a current market rental rate will apply.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) The original tender resulted in only one non-conforming tender, which offered rent of \$11 250 per annum for only a small part of the property. The tender period was extended and two tenders and three offers were subsequently received. One tender offered \$8 546 for the small part of the property and, as an alternative, \$19 992 for the same lot subject to the commission injecting \$19 350 of funds to improve pasture and fencing. The second tender was that of Astrik Pty Ltd, which offered \$22 000 per annum for the whole property.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) Nil. Astrik Pty Ltd provided caretaking and a security service in return for limited agistment rights.
- (7) The Water Authority originally purchased the property but archival research is required to determine the price paid. The property was transferred to the commission on its formation in 1996.