

KARRAKATTA CEMETERY, VANDALISM

226. Mr KOBELKE to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Has the Minister been advised of the level of complaints regarding vandalism and damage to headstones at Karrakatta Cemetery?
- (2) If not, will the Minister give an undertaking to inform himself as to the extent of the problem and the cost of repairing the damage to graves and headstones at Karrakatta Cemetery?
- (3) What is the number of reported instances of damage to graves or headstones at Karrakatta Cemetery in the 1999-2000 year?
- (4) What is the estimate of the cost of repairing or making good such damage at Karrakatta Cemetery in 1999-2000?
- (5) What steps, if any, have been taken by the Karrakatta Cemetery Board to try and stop such wanton damage and destruction to graves and headstones at Karrakatta Cemetery?

Mr OMODEI replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes. I have been advised of the complaints regarding vandalism and damage to headstones at Karrakatta Cemetery.
- (3) During 1999/2000 there were 19 reported instances of damage to headstones at Karrakatta Cemetery.
- (4) The holder of a current Grant of Right of Burial is responsible for any repairs to the grave and monumental work. Insurance is now available to cover instances of vandalism, theft and other forms of damage.
- (5) Outdoor staff, at Karrakatta Cemetery, have been trained to take note of suspicious persons and/or persons loitering and to convey this information to management. A security company provides a 24-hour monitoring service to the cemetery, with evening patrols occurring between dusk and dawn. These measures have contributed to the low rate of vandalism at the cemetery.