

SOBERING-UP CENTRE - NEWMAN

252. Hon TOM HELM to the minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

- (1) Since the minister was responsible for the relocation of the Parnpajinya people at Newman, can he advise when a sobering-up centre will be available at Newman?
- (2) When will a hostel and old people's accommodation be constructed and what additional measures has the minister taken to allow for a smooth transition to Newman?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) There are no plans to develop a sobering-up shelter at Newman.
- (2) There are no plans to construct a hostel incorporating old people's accommodation in Newman. The Ministry of Housing purchased four one-bedroom units in Newman in 1998 which are being used for aged Aboriginal people.
- (3) The Ministry of Housing has expanded the supported housing assistance program to assist tenants in need.