

MIDLAND SALEYARDS, LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS

518. Hon NORM KELLY to the minister representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

- (1) Can the minister give an assurance that lambs purchased by live exporters at the Midland saleyards on 8 November were not sent directly to the port of Fremantle for immediate export?
- (2) Can the minister give such an assurance for other livestock purchased from the saleyards in the past six months?
- (3) Do the Midland saleyards have a mechanism that ensures that livestock purchased at the saleyards are sent to feedlots prior to export; and if so, what are those mechanisms?
- (4) If the minister can give an assurance as requested in part (1), to which feedlots were these lambs sent?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) There was no sheep sale at Midland saleyards on 8 November.
- (2) No breaches of commonwealth legislation that require sheep to be held at registered premises prior to export have been reported to Agriculture Western Australia during the past six months.
- (3) This mechanism exists through commonwealth legislation that requires that sheep be held at registered premises prior to export. Any evidence of breaches of this legislation will be investigated by Agriculture Western Australia on behalf of the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service.
- (4) Not applicable.