

WEDGE AND GREY ISLANDS — RECREATIONAL LEASEHOLDERS

1. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

- (1) How much money did the government receive from recreational leaseholders with shacks at Wedge and Grey islands between July 2008 and June 2010; and, which department collects this money and where does it go?
- (2) Having disbanded the working group set up by the Labor government to resolve the medium to long-term planning issues that have beset the shack communities at Wedge and Grey islands, what consultation has the government undertaken in the past 12 months with shack lessees and with the Shire of Dandaragan?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The shack leases at Wedge and Grey are administered by the Department of Environment and Conservation. Moneys are placed into a trust fund and utilised for the management of the coastline affected by the shacks. The day-to-day running costs of shack management by DEC include the costs associated with staff, ranger services, project management, leasing, coastal planning and maintaining refuge sites. The rent collected from shack lessees for 2008–09 was \$412 657.89 inclusive of outstanding debts, and for 2009–10 was \$297 585.34.
- (2) The member will be aware that the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs is undertaking an inquiry into shack sites in Western Australia, and consultation has occurred as part of that process. DEC continues to liaise with the Wedge Island Protection Association, the Grey Conservation and Community Association and the Shire of Dandaragan.