

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE SERVICES

800. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

I refer to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021.

- (1) Has any of the \$10 million allocated over the forward estimates to the one-off establishment, administration and capacity building for local Aboriginal cultural heritage services been distributed?
- (2) If yes to (1), will the minister please detail this distribution?
- (3) If no to (1), why not?
- (4) How many FTE within the department are assigned to this process?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

- (1)–(3) During the government’s extensive consultation processes on the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021, a number of prescribed bodies corporate—PBCs—expressed interest in undertaking the role of Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services—LACHS—as set out in the act. The government is committed to consulting further with those PBCs, other Aboriginal corporations and industry to seek their views on the establishment and capacity-building requirements for LACHS. The outcomes of this consultation process will inform a funding program that will respond to the specific requirements identified. The government is separately investigating a range of training options that will be made available to LACHS.
- (4) Several officers are involved in this process, with two FTEs having a specific focus on the administrative and capacity building of LACHS.