

SOUTH COAST MARINE PARK — PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

**488. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Environment:**

I refer to statements made by the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council in the media regarding the involvement of the Pew Charitable Trusts in the south coast marine park planning process.

- (1) What is the extent of the involvement of the PCT in the formulation of the indicative management plan for the SCMP?
- (2) Were any representatives of the PCT appointed to either the sector advisory group or community reference committee?
- (3) If yes to (2), what was the basis for their appointment?

**Hon SAMANTHA ROWE replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question, and provide the following answer on behalf of the parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Environment.

- (1) The extent of the PCT's involvement is limited to chairing the conservation sector advisory group, or SAG, which provides sector-specific advice to the community reference committee. The practice of peak bodies chairing SAGs within the SCMP planning phase is common, and reflects other SAGs active within the process.
- (2) The PCT chairs the conservation SAG. The PCT is not represented on the CRC.
- (3) Government sought an expression of interest for community and industry group representation on the SAGs, which led to the PCT's self-nomination and acceptance by government. I note that the WA Fishing Industry Council is the chair of the commercial fishing SAG.