

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT

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

I refer to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021.

- (1) What base case resource modelling has the government undertaken to quantify the skills, experience and quantum of personnel required within the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage and Local Area Cultural Heritage Services to administer the ACH act once it comes into operation?
- (2) Does the government acknowledge that LACHS will require state government funding in order to build capacity and capability ahead of the commencement of the ACH act?
- (3) If yes to (2), when will that funding be provided?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank Hon Colin de Grussa for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

- (1)–(3) The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage has identified additional staff and resource requirements for the implementation of the ACH act. Additional funding has been allocated for these purposes as set out in the 2022–23 budget. The ACH act embraces the cultural authority of traditional owners and LACHS form an important component of the ACH act. The department will be further engaging with Aboriginal organisations such as prescribed bodies corporate and native title representative bodies and industry regarding appropriate resources for LACHS to fulfil the role as set out in the ACH act. The government has already allocated \$10 million for capacity building of Aboriginal organisations that wish to become a LACHS, and the final funding model is being considered as part of the implementation of the ACH act.