

WARRALONG COMMUNITY — HOUSING

1108. Hon STEPHEN DAWSON to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the Warralong community in the Pilbara.

- (1) How many houses are located in the community and which agency has ownership of the houses?
- (2) Who has responsibility for rubbish collection and housing maintenance in the community; and, if it is a third party, will the minister table a copy of each agreement and contract?
- (3) Is a notional amount of funding set aside for maintenance of each of the properties; and, if yes, how much?
- (4) Who has responsibility for maintaining the communal ablution blocks in town?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The Department of Housing advises —

- (1) There are 16 houses in the Warralong community. Responsibility for the properties rests with the Coongan Aboriginal Corporation under the terms of a pastoral lease vested by the Crown.
- (2) The Pilbara Meta Maya Regional Aboriginal Corporation is responsible for rubbish collection funded by the commonwealth under the municipal and essential services program. Contractually PMM is required to empty rubbish bins each fortnight. The department advises bins are being emptied on a weekly basis. Requests for a copy of this contract should be directed to the commonwealth or PMM.

Property and tenancy management services are delivered by PMM under a service agreement with the department. This includes arranging maintenance to 11 of the 16 houses at Warralong community. A copy of this service agreement can be provided, subject to the approval of PMM as a party to the contract. The department is currently tendering for the provision of property and tenancy management services to remote Aboriginal communities in Western Australia. The new contracts will apply from July 2015.

- (3) The department provides a maintenance subsidy to PMM of \$4 000 per year per property. In addition, PMM is able to access extra funds for maintenance from the rent paid by residents of 11 properties.
- (4) All other properties not included in the service agreement with PMM are the responsibility of the Warralong community.