

SOUTH HEDLAND — SERVICE WORKER HOUSING

1391. Hon STEPHEN DAWSON to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the Department of Housing's website and the page entitled "Hedland 125 Service Workers Accommodation"—<http://www.housing.wa.gov.au/investorsandpartners/swa/hedland/Pages/default.aspx>.

- (1) Will the minister confirm that the 125 houses referred to were set aside for service workers for a maximum period of two years?
- (2) Will the minister admit it was government's intention that residents in these houses would be moved to Osprey Village once the leases expired, provided that facility was completed?
- (3) If yes to (2), were residents advised this was the government's intention at the time of signing a lease?
- (4) If no to (2), why were leases available up to a maximum of only two years?
- (5) Given Osprey Village is only half occupied, when does the government anticipate moving the Hedland 125 residents to Osprey and how many of the existing 125 properties will be made available to applicants on the Department of Housing waiting list?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

On behalf of the Minister for Housing, I advise —

- (1) Yes.
- (2) No.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) The Hedland 125 intervention was part of a comprehensive Hedland housing package implemented by government at the time to address the chronic shortage of supply of affordable housing in Hedland. It was anticipated that at the end of the two-year period sufficient affordable housing opportunities would be available in the town.
- (5) At the end of their tenancy, each resident will be able to make their own choice of alternative housing from a broad range of affordable housing options. Consideration will be given to the future use of each dwelling, including suitability for public housing.