

WEST KIMBERLEY REGIONAL PRISON — NAMING

5617. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Corrective Services

With reference to the naming of the new Derby Correctional Centre (Prison), I ask —

- (1) Did the Kimberley Cultural Advisory Group (KCAG) and the Derby Community Reference Group (DCRG) give the Warrwa traditional owners authority in relation to naming the new Derby Prison on behalf of the Kimberley Aboriginal people?
- (2) Did the Warrwa traditional owners select the Boab Flower ‘Guria’ as the name of the new Prison?
- (3) On 7 October 2009 did KCAG carry a motion that the Warrwa name ‘Guria’ was to be used in relation to the Derby Prison subject to the Kimberley Language Resource Centre (KLRC) checking that the name is acceptable to other areas of the Kimberley?
- (4) If no to (1), (2) and (3), why not?
- (5) If yes to (3), why, at a meeting on 1 November 2011 at Derby, did Michael MacFarlane, Superintendent of the Derby Prison, determine that the name would be the West Kimberley Regional Prison?
- (6) Why has no further consultation in respect of the naming of the Prison occurred with the Warrwa traditional owners?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1)–(3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) The Department of Corrective Services (the Department) decided on the name of the prison.
- (6) The Department’s Deputy Commissioner Adult Custodial, Ms Heather Harker, met Mr Lennard, an Aboriginal Elder for the Warrwa traditional owners, on 13 June 2012 in Derby. During the meeting Mr Lennard highlighted a number of issues, particularly that there are now conflicting native title claims over the land on which the prison is located.

In addition, Mr Lennard informed Ms Harker that he now agrees the name of the prison remain West Kimberley Regional Prison. It was noted that Corrective Services Commissioner, Mr Ian Johnson, will write to Mr Lennard to confirm this outcome.