

HONORARY CONSULS — PREMIER'S ROLE IN APPOINTMENT

4894. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Premier

In relation to the appointment of Honorary Consuls, what role does the Premier or Department of Premier and Cabinet play in:

- (a) the nomination of a potential consul;
- (b) the selection of a consul; and
- (c) the acceptance of the credentials of the consul?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

- (a)–(c) Consistent with Commonwealth protocol, a response on a proposed consul is sought from the State Government. It is entirely a matter between the Commonwealth Government and the requesting Embassy.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade notifies the Department of the Premier and Cabinet on the proposed nomination of an Honorary Consul who will have jurisdiction throughout Western Australia. Following notification the Protocol Branch of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet contact the Western Australia Police seeking a police clearance.

Once the police clearance is finalised, the information is provided to the Premier for his noting. This information, including the police clearance particulars, are then conveyed to the Federal Government.

Approval for the nomination, selection and acceptance of Honorary Consuls are the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs