

PUNMU ABORIGINAL CORPORATION — OFFICE FIRE

760. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs:

With the loss of the Punmu Aboriginal Community Office in the Pilbara in a fire caused by an electrical fault on Monday this week, what steps will the minister take to ensure that a functioning transportable office is located at the community as soon as possible?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

The commonwealth government's Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs provides municipal services to the Punmu Aboriginal Corporation on behalf of the community. I am advised that the building was insured by FaHCSIA and that insurance assessors are currently undertaking an assessment. FaHCSIA is currently working with the local community to determine its needs for further discussion with the relevant prescribed body corporate. The Department of Indigenous Affairs is aware of the incident and will continue to be kept informed of progress.