

ANIMAL WELFARE — PIGGERIES INSPECTIONS

74. Hon ED DERMER to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

Mr President —

The PRESIDENT: I am sorry, I made a mistake there! But, seeing Hon Ed Dermer is retiring, he can get two questions.

Hon Ken Travers: He's got about 10!

Hon ED DERMER: I will make a start.

Some notice of the question has been given and the reference number on this copy is 81.

- (1) Since assuming responsibility in 2011 for the Animal Welfare Act 2002, has the Department of Agriculture and Food WA undertaken any unannounced inspection at Westpork or any other piggery?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) If notice of the visits was given, how much notice was provided?
- (4) If the minister considers that existing legislation does not authorise such inspections, does he intend to seek amendments to the relevant acts in light of the recent Westpork case?

The PRESIDENT: That is Hon Ed Dermer's last bonus!

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

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

- (1) No.
- (2) Under the Animal Welfare Act 2002, a general inspector can enter a property unannounced only if there is a reasonable suspicion of a part 3 offence relating to cruelty or under a warrant.
- (3) A minimum of two days.
- (4) Potential amendments to the act are being assessed to allow access to properties to monitor animal welfare.