

HOUSING — REMOTE COMMUNITIES

164. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the withdrawal of commonwealth funding for remote communities, and to the undertaking given by the minister's predecessor that "we will see if we can negotiate more funds from the commonwealth". Can the minister tell the house how those negotiations are going?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

I thank the member for the question. There are actually two parts to some funding from the commonwealth for Indigenous and remote communities. One is a National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing program, which is an ongoing commitment which still has another four years to run, I think. Our discussions with the commonwealth have not been fruitful on the latter part of it. The commonwealth has been fairly clear that there will not be any negotiation and that the \$90 million that was committed to Western Australia to roll out the extension to that program is it. So, that is where we sit with negotiations with the federal government.