

PUBLIC HOUSING — ASBESTOS — REMOTE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

262. Hon STEPHEN DAWSON to the Minister for Housing:

- (1) Since 1 November 2014, how many audits or inspections of public housing in remote Aboriginal communities have taken place under head maintenance contractor arrangements?
- (2) Of those houses audited or inspected, how many have been identified as containing asbestos?
- (3) Of those houses identified as containing asbestos, how many have been identified as containing friable asbestos?
- (4) Which company or companies have conducted the inspections?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

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

- (1) Nil, as the head maintenance contractor arrangements have not yet commenced. However, the department has been reducing asbestos content in community houses located in remote Aboriginal communities continually through the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing program, which commenced in 2008. As part of a stock replacement program, large amounts of asbestos have been removed from residential accommodation in the town-based Fitzroy communities of Bayulu and Junjuwa and the remote communities of Wangkatjungka, Yungngora and Ardyaloon. The department has also completed more than 1 300 refurbishments and all asbestos has been removed or encapsulated to ensure tenant safety.
- (2)–(4) Not applicable.