

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION EMPLOYEES — ILLEGAL CAMPING

**486. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:**

I ask this question on behalf of Hon Sally Talbot who is out of the chamber on urgent parliamentary business.

- (1) Is the minister aware of reports that two Department of Environment and Conservation employees were found camping in a prohibited area in Francois Peron National Park recently?
- (2) When did the incident take place?
- (3) When was DEC first notified of the incident?
- (4) Has DEC investigated the incident?
- (5) When did this investigation take place?
- (6) Are any other agencies involved in the investigation?
- (7) Has a breach report been prepared?
- (8) Will the employees be prosecuted?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) On 8 and 9 April 2012.
- (3) On 21 April 2012.
- (4) A preliminary investigation was conducted by the Shark Bay district manager, and further investigation is being undertaken.
- (5) The preliminary investigation took place between 21 April and 9 May 2012. The further investigation is ongoing.
- (6) No.
- (7) A preliminary breach report has been prepared. Further investigation is being undertaken to finalise the report.
- (8) Prosecution is a matter for the Director General of the Department of Environment and Conservation and is dependent on the outcome of the ongoing investigation.