

HEMPCRETE

**268. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the minister representing the Minister for Housing:**

I refer the minister to reports from the United States suggesting that the 3D printing of homes can now incorporate hemp into the concrete, to provide added levels of insulation and fire retardation.

- (1) Given that 3D-printed homes can be produced in a matter of days by a small number of highly skilled technicians at approximately 85 per cent of the cost of a regular build, is the Department of Housing considering 3D printing as a means of increasing its available housing stock?
- (2) If yes to (1), is hemp being considered as an additive in any such build?
- (3) If no to (1), why not?
- (4) If no to (2), are there any legislative hurdles that would need to be cleared before hemp could be used as a concrete additive here in WA?

**Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Housing.

- (1)–(4) The Department of Communities utilises a range of innovative and flexible methods for boosting social housing across the state, including modular and prefabricated construction, timber frame construction and spot purchasing. Communities requires new builds to be compliant with the National Construction Code's energy efficiency and accessibility provisions, but considers a range of construction methods and is open to innovative delivery methods. Communities has an open and ongoing call-for-submissions process that builders and developers can access at any time to have their projects considered for future social housing delivery.