Estimates Committee 2007
Questions Taken On Notice
(20/06/2006 to 31/08/2006)

Date: 27/06/2007

Output:

Sub Output: Business Line - Territory Housing

Subject: Report on Efforts to Secure Town Camp Funding for Tangentyere Council

From: Dr Richard Soon Huat LIM to Mr Elliot McAdam
Minister for Housing

9-5

Question: Please provide a detailed report on the efforts that the Minister and the Chief Minister undertook to secure the $60m from the Federal government for Tangentyere Council.

Answer:

Answered On: 22/08/2007

Answer: Alice Springs Town Camps Negotiations – Next Steps

· Discussions with Tangentyere Council around land tenure reform and housing management in relation to Tangentyere town camps commenced in the context of the work of the Alice Springs Town Camps Taskforce and at the first meeting of the Alice Springs Town Camps Steering Committee held on 1 September 2006
· In November 2006 a meeting between Tangentyere Executive and officials from the Australian and NT Governments was held to advance discussions on land tenure and town camp improvements through a workshop forum.
· From this time Minister McAdam, as Minister for Housing and Minister Assisting the Chief Minister on Indigenous Policy, has been in regular contact with the Tangentyere Council encouraging an agreement that would lead to new Australian Government investments to improve town camp conditions.
· A meeting was also held between Tangentyere, the Chief Minister and Minister McAdam the week of the sittings In Alice Springs (17/18/19 April 2007) regarding the importance of resolving these issues and commencement of initiatives to improve living conditions on town camps.
· On 23 May 2007 the Chief Minister and Minister McAdam met with the Tangentyere Executive and restated the importance of land tenure and housing management reforms and the risk of potential loss of Australian Government funding that was on offer.
· The Tangentyere Council was not able to make agreement with the Australian Government regarding town camp land tenure reform and negotiations have now been over taken by events, in particular the Australian Government's Emergency Response to Aboriginal Child Abuse in the Northern Territory.