

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question on notice

Tuesday, 12 August 2014

1422. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment.

Regarding the lavatories and former rubbish disposal unit at the intersection of Gibb River Road and Kalumburu Road in the North Kimberley, I ask:

- (a) who is responsible for cleaning and maintaining the lavatories in a good working order;
- (b) who is responsible for supervising that cleaning and maintenance are carried out thoroughly and in a timely manner;
- (c) why was the rubbish disposal unit that was formerly located at this site, and which was well used by tourists, bulldozed with a mound of dirt left in its place:
 - (i) who authorised its removal, and at what cost;
 - (d) who is responsible for disposing of the rubbish that is left behind at the lavatory block;
 - (e) how much was spent by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) on building the lavatory block, which was commenced in October 2013 and finished in July 2014, and how much was wasted when bags of cement were left outside during the wet season;
 - (f) are there any plans to replace the visitor information gazebo and notice boards that were previously located at the intersection, and at what cost:
 - (i) if no to (f), why not; and
 - (ii) if yes to (f), when will this occur;
 - (g) how much has the new rubbish disposal unit situated on Drysdale Station, 60 kms north of the intersection, cost DPaW:
 - (i) who is responsible for its maintenance and upkeep; and
 - (h) are there any other rubbish disposal units on the Gibb River Road between the Tunnel Creek turn-off and Great Northern Highway:
 - (i) if yes to (h), who is responsible for their maintenance and upkeep?

Answer

- (a) The Department of Parks and Wildlife has accepted management responsibility on behalf of Main Roads WA.
- (b) The Department of Parks and Wildlife.
- (c) The site was poorly maintained and the rubbish cage was in disrepair and required replacing. The Department decided the retention of a rubbish disposal site is inconsistent with the proposed development as a day use site with picnic facilities and environmental interpretation signage.
 - (i) Parks and Wildlife and Main Roads WA agreed the rubbish disposal unit should be removed. The cost was negligible as machinery and operators were on-site.

- (d) The Department of Parks and Wildlife. It is expected that visitors will use alternate disposal sites at Drysdale River Station and other locations on the Gibb River Road.
- (e) The Department spent \$251 000 on a hybrid toilet system and double cubicle toilet structure; bollards; seating; an interpretation shelter; a self-filling 50 000 litre water tank; and earthworks and construction costs.
Several opened bags of cement were lost due to wetting during the wet season. A one tonne bag of aggregate was not affected over the wet season and was used in the footings of the interpretation shelter.
- (f) Yes. \$7900.
 - (i) Not applicable
 - (ii) September 2014.
- (g) \$45 000.
- (i) The owners of Drysdale River Station.
- (h) Yes, at the intersection of Gibb River Road and Fairfield–Leopold Downs Road and at Ellenbrae Station on the Gibb River Road.
- (i) Main Roads WA.

