

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question On Notice

Tuesday, 18 September 2018

1658. Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade

In the 2016 Health Risk Assessment (HRA) prepared for the Department of Health by Toxikos, the Executive Summary stated “there is sufficient evidence of potential impacts on human health from dust, specifically PM10 in the Toxikos HRA to warrant dust management controls and strategic land-use planning to reduce community exposure to dust”, referring to recommendations in this HRA, I ask:

- (a) have any of the recommendations been implemented;
- (b) if yes to (a):
 - (i) which recommendations were implemented; and
 - (ii) when were they implemented;
- (c) if no to (a), why not;
- (d) are there plans to implement any of the recommendations not currently implemented; and
- (e) if yes to (d), when are these recommendations going to be implemented?

Answer

The Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation advises:

(a) – (e):

The recommendations of the Port Hedland Air Quality Health Risk Assessment for Particulate Matter (HRA) informed the strategies for managing dust in Port Hedland which the Port Hedland Dust Management Taskforce recommended in its 2016 Report to Government. The Taskforce Report was provided to the previous government but it did not publicly release or respond to the Report.

The McGowan Government released the Taskforce Report in August 2017 for public comment. After considering feedback received from the community and industry stakeholders, the Government released its response to the Taskforce Report on 15 October 2018. Full details can be found on the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation website.

The measures outlined in the Government response will see the implementation of dust management controls and strategic land use planning measures to reduce community exposure to dust, consistent with the recommendations in the HRA.

