

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ARISING OUT OF THE ABORIGINAL
AFFAIRS BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING OF 28 AUGUST, 2006

What government support is being provided to the Arakwal Elders regarding the provision of housing?

ANSWER:

I understand that the Arakwal Aboriginal Corporation has applied for registration with the NSW Aboriginal Housing Office as an Aboriginal Community Housing Provider to apply for funding for new housing for Arakwal Elders in the Bryon Bay area.

I am advised that the NSW Aboriginal Housing Office, Regional Manager, Coffs Harbour has met with Arakwal Aboriginal Corporation and Elders regarding the development of units for Elders. The Regional Manager is negotiating with Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council on how these units would be managed on behalf of the Arakwal Aboriginal Corporation.

I will be visiting the area to meet with the Arakwal Aboriginal Corporation and Elders in October.

I have also asked my Department to liaise with the NSW Aboriginal Housing Office on this issue.