

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 866**  
**Asked on 18 August 2004**

**MR LINGARD** asked the Minister for Tourism Fair Trading and Wine Industry Development (Ms Keech)—

QUESTION:

With reference to allegations of odometer tampering for each year over the past two years and for the year to date-

- (1) What was the number of major car companies or car dealerships inspected for compliance and the date that these inspections were carried out?
- (2) What was the number of major car dealerships (a) affiliated with Holden and (b) not affiliated with Holden inspected for compliance and the date that these inspections were carried out?

ANSWER:

(1) Compliance checks conducted by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) are not categorised as 'major car companies or major car dealerships'. Nor does OFT record the reason for a spot check (such as due to allegations of odometer tampering), although checks for evidence of tampering are regularly conducted as part of compliance activities.

When new legislation is enacted, compliance activity is high, tapering away from that point to concentrate on more targeted checks. The Property Agents and Motor Dealers Act 2000 came into effect on July 1 2001. In its first full year, there were 419 spot checks conducted on car companies or dealerships. The figure was 297 for 2003-04, with 121 spot checks to date this financial year.

(2) Fair Trading inspectors have conducted 28 proactive compliance checks this financial year on Holden new car dealerships across the state during July as part of investigations into the use of a diagnostic tool which allowed odometers to be wound back. The tool has since been withdrawn by GM-H. Further checks are planned for non-Holden dealerships.