

Question on Notice

No. 928

Asked on Tuesday, 31 August 2004

DR CLARK MP, asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**MR PITT**) -

QUESTION:

Will he indicate the progress being made on renovations and modifications to the house Purchased for the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre?

ANSWER:

Extensive consultation has been undertaken with the Department of Housing to facilitate an accommodation solution for the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre.

In February 2004, the Department of Housing purchased a property located at 19 Thongon Street, Kuranda for housing purposes under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Program.

The Department of Housing has agreed to ascertain the suitability of this dwelling for use as a neighbourhood centre. Due to excessive costs to renovate the dwelling and fulfil council regulations for this purpose, other alternatives are being sought.

An alternative property is being considered by the Department of Housing which should provide a better outcome for the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre. Further consultation with the Department of Housing will continue to seek an outcome that will allow the Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre to operate from suitable premises with the ongoing support of the Department of Communities.