

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S EVIDENCE — STATE SOLICITOR ADVICE

361. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the Attorney General's evidence in court on 8 April 2022 that the State Solicitor, Mr Egan, was unable to provide advice on a defamation case due to a possible conflict.

- (1) What has been the cost to the state of that possible conflict?
- (2) On what dates since the March 2021 state election did the Attorney General meet with the State Solicitor?
- (3) Did the Attorney General and the State Solicitor communicate on any other occasion outside of a meeting during that period?
- (4) If yes to (3), what was the mode of that communication and when did it occur?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question and provide the following answer based on information provided to me by the Attorney General.

- (1) These costs have not been quantified.
- (2)–(4) The Attorney General meets regularly with the State Solicitor. Given the State Solicitor's Office is responsible for providing legal advice to government on an array of legal matters, many of these meetings and communications are covered by legal professional privilege.