Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Wednesday, 18 September 2002] p1233b-1233b Mrs Cheryl Edwardes; Dr Geoff Gallop

COLE ROYAL COMMISSION, GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

212. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Premier

I refer the Premier to the motion carried unanimously at Labor's State Conference in June 2002, attacking the Cole Royal Commission, and ask -

- (a) does the Government still continue to support the Cole Royal Commission, given your previous statements;
- (b) if so, why did the Premier and your Ministerial colleagues support the Labor Party motion; and
- (c) is the Parliamentary Labor Party still bound, under your party's constitution, to comply with Labor Party Conference motions?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

- (a) The Government has fully cooperated with the Cole Royal Commission by making submissions and committing considerable resources to providing material which was requested from departmental records.
- (b)-(c) The Australian Labor Party determines its policies from time to time through party conferences.

It is the Labor Government, through the parliamentary members of the party, that determines the priorities and timing for implementation of policy.