

MR HARKEN, APPOINTMENT

492. Mrs EDWARDES to the Minister for Education:

Can the minister confirm that neither he nor any of the staff in his ministerial office had any part to play in the appointment of Mr Harken?

Mr CARPENTER replied:

That is a slightly convoluted question, but I think the member was asking whether I could guarantee that neither my staff nor I played any part in Mr Harken's appointment.

Several members interjected.

Mr CARPENTER: I can tell members that two people in my office advise me on education. Neither of those two nor I played a part in his appointment. Mr Mance made the decision, and he explained the process by which that decision was made in the estimates hearings in the upper House. It is on the *Hansard* record, in response to a question put to him by Hon Norman Moore.