

EDUCATION, APPOINTMENT OF ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL

836. Hon C L Edwardes to the Minister for Education

- (1) I refer to the article in The West Australian of 20 July 2001 entitled 'Cut hits School Bureaucrats' and ask what position did Mr Harkin hold prior to his appointment to the taskforce?
- (2) Who appointed Mr Harkin to the Taskforce and on what date?
- (3) What classification and salary level was Mr Harkin prior to his appointment to the Taskforce?
- (4) What salary and classification level is the Deputy Director General position?
- (5) Who appointed Mr Harkin to the position of Acting Deputy Director General?
- (6) Was the Deputy Director General's position advertised in the form of an expression of interest?
- (7) If so, on what date?
- (8) If not, why not?
- (9) Did the Minister encourage or ask Mr Harkin to apply for the Deputy Director General position?
- (10) Did the Minister communicate with any person of the employing authority or its delegate concerning the selection or appointment of Mr Harkin?

Mr CARPENTER replied:

- (1) District Director Fremantle District Education Office.
- (2) Minister for Education , on 29 April 2001
- (3) Level 9, \$93 405
- (4) Acting Deputy Director General C4, \$114 453
- (5) The Acting Director General, Mr Ron Mance
- (6) No
- (7) N/A
- (8) The Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management allows a line manager to appoint an employee to a position higher than the employee's substantive position for a period of up to six months. If the position is not filled substantively within six months then either an expression of interest process will have to be completed or somebody else will have to be appointed in an acting capacity.
- (9) Mr Harken did not apply for the position, he was invited by the A/Director General. No discussion took place between the Minister and Mr Harken about the invitation or Mr Harken's decision to accept it.
- (10) Mr Mance invited Mr Harken to take up the Acting position.  
  
No conversation took place between Mr Mance and the Minister about the invitation to Mr Harken other than advice to the Minister following Mr Harken's acceptance of the invitation.