

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, SEXUALITY DISCRIMINATION

31. Hon HELEN HODGSON to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General:

In respect of the proposed government sexuality reform proposals -

- (1) Has the Government issued administrative directives to government departments to address matters of discrimination within the public sector that can be addressed without the passage of legislation?
- (2) If so, when were such directives issued, and what matters are addressed?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) Is the transgendered community represented on the committee that is considering the reforms?
- (5) Does the Government intend to address issues of discrimination faced by pre-operative transgendered residents of this State?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The Government is waiting for a report from the ministerial committee that has been established to advise the Attorney General on all forms of the law that discriminate against gays and lesbians before it makes any changes to laws or procedures. The report is expected to be provided to the Attorney General in June 2001.
- (4) No, the ministerial committee is addressing discrimination against gays and lesbians only.
- (5) The Attorney General has asked the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity to determine whether any amendments need to be made to the state Equal Opportunity Act and to particularly have regard to issues concerning pre-operative transgender or gender dysphoric people. The Government will await this report from the commissioner.