

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, UNAPPROVED EXPENDITURE

2524. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Premier

I refer the Premier to the article in The West Australian newspaper of 4 December 2003, titled 'Departments sloppy bookwork under fire' and ask -

- (a) which was the agency referred to in the article that had unapproved expenditure dating back 14 months;
- (b) what did the expenditure refer to;
- (c) what is the reason for the delay in approval;
- (d) who is the responsible Minister for that agency; and
- (e) has the Premier advised the Minister of the responsibility of his/her office and financial responsibility of the Departments and Agencies under his/her control?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

- (a) Department of Justice.
- (b) The expenditure related to accommodation, meals, fuel, parking fees, taxi costs, film and stationery.
- (c) The delay in approval was a result of late completion of claim forms and authorisation by incurring officers.
- (d) The minister currently responsible is the Minister for Justice. At the time, it was the Attorney General.
- (e) The responsibilities of Ministers and agencies are stipulated in the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.