

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS

1164. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Education

- (1) Has the Department of Education appointed consultants Ms Maxine Schlanders and Ms Jan Saggars to undertake the task of sizing jobs for the new structure of the department?
- (2) If so, have all the departments' and State Supply Commissions' policies, processes and procedures been strictly complied with?
- (3) Who in the department approached and appointed the consultants?
- (4) What is the total cost of the consultancy?
- (5) What is the timeframe of the consultancy?
- (6) Is it correct Mr Ed Harkin was involved in the appointment of the consultancy?

Mr CARPENTER replied:

- (1)-(6) The Human Resources consultants, Nexus Strategic Solutions (Ms Maxine Schlanders and Ms Jan Saggars) were identified and engaged by the A/Deputy Director General by reference by the Premier and Cabinet panel contract for job design and organisational structure. At the time the consultants submitted an invoice for payment, the Department of Education's internal audit processes identified that there had been shortcomings in the engagement of the consultants with respect to the compliance of relevant policies and procedures, including a lack of proper documentation. The matter was brought to the attention of the A/Deputy Director General and A/ Director General who instructed that the situation be rectified. The total cost of the consultancy is \$15,000 with a timeframe of 150 hours.