

DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION, BUDGET

1197. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Disability Services

I refer the Minister to the budget of the Disability Services Commission and ask -

- (a) what direct funding has the Minister made available to Carers with disabled relatives;
- (b) what is the estimated cost of the first year of 'in house' cleaning for the Disability Commission;
- (c) what is the Mission Statement of the Disability Services Commission; and
- (d) how is this Mission Statement served by the Minister's insistence that the Disability Commission take their cleaning services 'in house'?

Ms S.M. McHALE replied:

- (a) The budget provides for a Carer's Package of \$2,041,000 per annum for 4 years. Carers also benefit from the provision of individualised funding. Some \$9.48 million of direct funding was expended in 2001/2002.
- (b) \$580,000 per annum, which is equal to the projected expenditure for the existing outsourced cleaning services for 2002/2003.
- (c) The primary focus of the Disability Services Commission is to make a positive difference to the lives of people with disabilities, their families and carers.
- (d) I have never insisted on the insourcing of cleaning services.