

SOCIAL TRAINERS — RECLASSIFICATION PAY INCREASE

358. Hon SUE ELLERY to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Commerce:

I refer to the unreasonable delays in the payment of the general agreement, reached in October last year, which includes a reclassification pay increase for social trainers employed by the Disability Services Commission. Can the minister explain why, given the support of the Minister for Disability Services, and a decision of the Economic and Expenditure Reform Committee in support of the payment, the payment to those social trainers by way of administrative decision cannot proceed?

Hon BARRY HOUSE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. It is anticipated that the government approval process will enable an offer to be made to the Civil Service Association shortly. Given the prospect of finalising an agreement with the Civil Service Association in the near future, it is not considered that an administrative payment is necessary.