

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES — CREDITORS OUTSTANDING

543. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Science and Innovation

For each Department and Agency within the Minister's portfolios, as at 24 March 2009, —

- (a) what was the amount and number of creditors outstanding for less than or equal to 30 days;
- (b) what was the amount and number of creditors outstanding for less than or equal to 60 days;
- (c) what was the amount and number of creditors outstanding for less than or equal to 90 days;
- (d) what was the amount and number of creditors outstanding for less than or equal to 120 days; and
- (e) what was the amount and number of creditors outstanding more than 120 days?

Hon BARRY HOUSE replied:

The Science, Innovation and Business Division of the Department of Commerce

The Department makes every effort to pay creditors within 30 days, however, there are circumstances under which this is not possible. Examples, which are reflected in the figures below are:

- i) Late Billing — some creditors do not submit invoices for more than 30 days after the goods or services are supplied. The date recorded in the finance system is the date of the invoice (not the date the invoice is received) and therefore such invoices will appear as outstanding for more than 30 days even if they are paid on the day they are received.
- ii) Grant payments — grant payments are made when certain milestones are met. The department needs to be satisfied these have been met and this can cause delays in payment.
- iii) Misdirected invoices — payment can be delayed if invoices are incorrectly addressed and/or the original invoices are not received.
- iv) Early receipt of invoices — invoices can be received from creditors prior to the goods and/or service having been received. The date recorded in the finance system is the date of the invoice (not the date the invoice is received) and therefore such invoices will appear as outstanding for more than 30 days even if they are paid on the day they are received.
 - (a) 19 creditors valued at \$15,826.
 - (b) 2 creditors valued at \$716.
 - (c)-(e) Nil.

Chemistry Centre of Western Australia

- (a) \$440,230.00 52 creditors
- (b) \$3,812.00 9 creditors
- (c) \$19,034.00 4 creditors
- (d) \$9,961.00 1 creditor
- (e) Nil