

EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE AGREEMENTS, NUMBER

2179. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection

I refer the Minister to the end of individual workplace agreements on 15 September 2003 and ask -

- (a) how many Employer-Employee Agreements (EEAs) are now in place;
- (b) how many applications for Employer-Employee Agreements have been lodged;
- (c) how many are still to be processed;
- (d) has the Government taken any steps to advise employers or employees of their rights and/or options following the end of individual workplace agreements on 15 September 2003;
- (e) if so, will the Minister provide details;
- (f) if not, why not; and
- (g) how many employers and employees are affected by the inability to process EEAs?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

As at Thursday, 27th November 2003, the figures were:

- (a) 154 Employer-Employee Agreements have been registered.
- (b) 688, of which 560 met lodgement requirements and were accepted for lodgement.
- (c) There are 14 EEAs lodged for registration with the Registrar. These applications are currently being processed.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) On 16 May 2003, the Registrar wrote to all employers having involvement in the workplace agreements system advising of the cessation of workplace agreements and providing information as to where to seek advice and assistance. In addition, the Government has implemented initiatives including written instructional material, press and radio advertisements, mail-outs to all workplace agreement employers and employees on the register of workplace agreements, presentations, and interactive educational seminars. Traditional sources of labour relations information have also been available to employers and employees throughout this period and will continue into the future, including the Wageline and Education services of the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection.
- (f) Not applicable.
- (g) There is no inability to process Employer-Employee Agreements where the relevant requirements for registration are met.