

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING, TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH MRS NORMA
JEFFERY

574. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Education and Training:

Did the minister have a telephone conversation with Mrs Norma Jeffery on Thursday, 18 August, which was the day before she was removed as chief executive officer of the Curriculum Council, or thereabouts; if so, did the minister inform Mrs Jeffery in that conversation that she was to be removed from her position with the Curriculum Council?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

As for the specific date of a telephone conversation, my recollection is that a conversation took place after 19 August, and it was a telephone conversation initiated by Miss Norma Roberts -

Hon Barry House: Initiated by Miss Norma Roberts?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: Norma Jeffery. I did not ring her; she phoned me. The tenor of the conversation, basically, was that she had been made aware that there was some concern about the direction of the Curriculum Council and she wanted to know what my position was in that respect. I said that I had travelled around and had listened to people, and that there had been some concerns in respect of a whole range of matters, such as assessment, resource material and moderation. That conversation did take place. From then on it was really out of my hands. I did not phone Mrs Norma Jeffery at any time about her appointment.

Hon Norman Moore: You made somebody else do your dirty work.

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH: The question was asked and I am putting on the record exactly what happened. I did not initiate a conversation with Mrs Norma Jeffery. She phoned my office. At that point I expressed some of the concerns that had been raised with me about matters surrounding the Curriculum Council.