

PRISONS, MS WILMA PEARCE

830. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) How long has a Ms Wilma Pearce been acting in a public service position?
- (2) What is that position or positions?
- (3) How many times, and on what dates, has that position been advertised?
- (4) Why has Ms Pearce been allowed to remain in this position for so long?
- (5) Was this temporary deployment subject to merit selection?
- (6) Does Ms Pearce still hold a prison officer's position?
- (7) If not, why not?
- (8) If yes, at which prison?
- (9) Has the Ministry of Justice complied with Section 8 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994 and all the public standards in force at the relevant time this appointment was made?
- (10) Is the Director General of the Ministry of Justice aware of the situation in relation to Ms Pearce's temporary deployment?
- (11) Was there a breach of standards in relation to Ms Pearce's temporary deployment to the Internal Investigations Unit?
- (12) If not, why not?
- (13) If so, was this breach -
 - (a) known;
 - (b) condoned; and/or
 - (c) ignored;by the Director General of the Ministry of Justice?

Mr BARRON-SULLIVAN replied:

The Minister for Justice has supplied the following reply:

- (1) Since April 1995.
- (2) Investigations Officer.
- (3) The position was advertised in 1996 at level 6 classification.
- (4) The position was not filled and as a consequence Ms Peers was retained in an acting capacity. .
- (5) Yes.
- (6) Yes, substantively.
- (7) Not applicable.
- (8) Mrs Peers is not attached to a specific prison.
- (9) Yes.
- (10) The Executive Director Offender Management who acts on behalf of the Director General is aware of the current status.
- (11) No.
- (12) Ms Peers has been appointed on a short term fixed contract pursuant to Section 64(1)(b) of the Public Sector Management Act 1994.
- (13) Not applicable.