

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, STAFF STATISTICS

1021. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs; Science; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests

I refer to the answer to question on notice No. 237 concerning staffing and salary issues, and to the State Labor Government's election promise on openness and accountability and ask -

- (a) how does the Minister reconcile the answer given when six Ministers have responded in detail;
- (b) will the Minister now answer Question 237; and
- (c) if not, why not?

Dr GALLOP replied:

- (a)-(c) The information requested relates to historical staffing information which is not readily available from the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's Human Resource Information System. Owing to the mobile nature of a large proportion of the Department's staff, the provision of a precise answer would involve manually checking files and documents, which in many cases are no longer in the possession of the Department having been returned to other Departments due to staff movements that have occurred since February 2001. I am not prepared to allocate the necessary resources to provide a response.

If the Member has a specific inquiry I will endeavour to provide a reply.