

PUBLIC LIBRARY STOCK

379. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts:

I ask the question on behalf of Hon Barbara Scott, who has had to leave the chamber. The question refers to this year's budget papers.

- (1) During the election campaign the minister promised \$43 million over four years for public library stock; has that been delivered in this year's budget?
- (2) Exactly how much a year for the next four years will be spent on the public library stock?

Hon KATE DOUST replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The minister committed an extra \$14.3 million to buy more books and resources for the state's 238 public libraries.
- (2) Over the next four years, the following will be spent on public library stock: 2005-06, \$6.5 million, plus \$2.2 million; 2006-07, \$6.5 million, plus \$2.2 million; 2007-08, \$6.5 million, plus \$2.4 million; and 2008-09, \$6.5 million.