

DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION, CLEANING SERVICES

1196. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Disability Services

I refer the Minister to the cleaning services for the Disability Services Commission, and ask -

- (a) did the Disability Service Commission indicate, to the Minister, that they intended to out-source the cleaning service because of the cost benefit;
- (b) did the Minister instruct the Disability Commission to abide by the Minister's preference for 'in house' cleaning;
- (c) was a cost benefit evaluation conducted on the Minister's preferred option;
- (d) did the Disability Commission inform the Minister that they did not have the experience or resources to take the cleaning 'in house'; and
- (e) has the Disability Commission indicated to the Minister, which services to clients will be cut or withdrawn, to cover the increased costs involved with 'in house' cleaning?

Ms S.M. McHALE replied:

- (a) Yes, in July 2001. The Disability Services Commission has reconsidered its position in light of the redevelopment of its hostels, the new Contracting Out Policy which considers social, environmental and economic impacts and other Government reforms.
- (b) No.
- (c) Not applicable, the Minister did not indicate a preferred option.
- (d) The Disability Services Commission advised that the existing Facility Managers did not have the expertise nor the time to supervise the cleaning services. The Commission has chosen to address this by appointing a cleaning supervisor within the existing budget allocation for cleaning services.
- (e) Insourcing will not result in an increased funding requirement.