

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS, INCREASE IN ELECTORATE STAFF ALLOCATION

481. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

- (1) Was the recent allocation of more staff to certain members of the Legislative Assembly recommended by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal?
- (2) If yes to (1), in which *Government Gazette* was it announced?
- (3) If no to (1), will it be the Premier's custom to circumvent the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal and make all decisions on members' allowances etc himself?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

- (1)-(3) The decision regarding the staffing entitlement of electorate offices has always been the responsibility of the government of the day, not the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal. The tribunal does not make determinations regarding the resourcing of electorate offices. The recent decision to allocate more staff to members of the Legislative Assembly was made by government having regard for the need for those members to better service their electorates.