

CONNECT SOUTH WEST

5650. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for South West

- (1) In relation to question without notice No. 958, can the Minister make available to the Parliament and public, details of the briefing he received regarding the ongoing sustainability of Connect South West?
- (2) Can the Minister assure the Parliament that the South West Development Commission has adequately overseen and accounted for all funds directed to Connect South West?
- (3) Can the Minister advise the Parliament of the currency or how up to date the listings contained within the My South West Directories are?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

- (1) I am advised formal briefings covering the sustainability of Connect South West were received from the South West Development Commission in May 2005 and as part of the Commission's 2006/07 and 2007/08 budget information. The My South West portal is expected to become self-funding in 2008.
- (2) The South West Development Commission has satisfactorily overseen and accounted for grant funds it has directed to Connect South West. Terms and conditions of a Commission grant agreement require payment according to milestones and an annual audit of financial statements to acquit the grant.
- (3) With a database of over 11,000 listings in the My South West directories, it is not possible to provide an accurate comment on how up-to-date the listings are at any point in time. Community organisations and businesses are largely responsible for maintaining their information; however, Connect South West staff undertake rolling information checking as part of their daily operational activities.