

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION — TERTIARY STUDY BY EMPLOYEES

2126. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Environment

- (1) How many Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) employees are currently undertaking tertiary studies?
- (2) What is the current employment position and level of each of these employees (only non-identifying information required)?
- (3) What courses are they enrolled in (i.e. area and level of study)?
- (4) At which tertiary institutions are they studying?
- (5) How many of these employees are receiving assistance from the DEC to undertake these studies?
- (6) What form does this assistance take?
- (7) What conditions are attached to this assistance?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

- (1)-(4) As the decision to study is personal, DEC does not have records of staff who are undertaking tertiary study.
- (5) 42
- (6) Staff who receive paid time off to undertake study (study leave) must meet the requirement of the Public Service Award 1992 and can receive a maximum of 5 hours study leave per week. Those who are successful in receiving a departmental scholarship can receive study leave and limited financial assistance towards the cost of studies.
- (7) Access to study leave and limited financial assistance is at the discretion of the employer and subject to departmental convenience, satisfactory progress, the course of study being relevant to the officer's career or being of value to the State.