

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, MANAGEMENT INITIATED REDUNDANCY
AGREEMENTS, BAR ON CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT

1095. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Attorney General; Minister for Justice and Legal Affairs; Electoral Affairs; Peel and the South West

I refer to the article in *The West Australian* of 17 February 2003, entitled 'Axe golden gags, say Ministers' and ask -

- (a) is the Attorney General aware that Management Initiated Redundancy agreements contain a clause barring criticism of the Government or the Minister;
- (b) if yes, on what date did the Attorney General become aware;
- (c) does the Attorney General support the clause in Management Initiated Redundancy agreements, which bars criticism of the Government;
- (d) if yes, why; and
- (e) if not, why not?

Mr J.A. McGINTY replied:

- (a) Yes.
- (b) This issue has been public knowledge since it was addressed by the Nevill Committee during the life of the last Government.
- (c)-(d) I support the Government's policy which is that such clauses should only apply for a limited period of time.
- (c) Not applicable.