

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE, GENERIC ANSWERS

1660. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Premier

I refer the Premier to generic replies to Questions on Notice and ask -

- (a) which officer prepares the generic answers for the Ministers;
- (b) which Department is this officer employed by;
- (c) to whom is the officer responsible;
- (d) if the generic response is different to that of the responsible Minister's original answer, what happens to the original answer;
- (e) are these original answers available on file, through Freedom of Information;
- (f) if so, which file and in which office;
- (g) by supplying generic answers to Questions on Notice is it a reflection on the ability and trust that the Premier has for the Ministers; and
- (h) if not, will the Premier now allow the Ministers to answer their own questions?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

- (a)-(h) There is no single officer who prepares generic answers. All answers are approved by relevant Ministers as has been the case in the previous governments.