

CONNECT SOUTH WEST

5638. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for South West

- (1) For each of Connect South West's 19 'My Town' sites, can the Minister please detail, —
  - (a) the funding source;
  - (b) the set-up costs; and
  - (c) ongoing costs?
- (2) Can the Minister please provide specific details on the, '\$50 000 provided to assist business with advanced IT training', as per his response to question without notice No.950?
- (3) Can the Minister please advise the amount of paid content that appears on the Connect South West 'My South West' website?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

- (1)
  - (a) Funded by Connect South West from a combination of Government grant funds and private contributions.
  - (b) Not identified in funding allocations or acquittals as this was an internal strategy developed by Connect South West to establish local content and provide a service to the region.
  - (c) Not specifically identified by Connect South West; part of general operational expenditure.
- (2) I am advised \$50,000 was allocated under Connect South West's E Commerce Business Development Grant Program which provided \$250 training vouchers to businesses throughout the South West Region to undertake advanced IT training. The purpose of the allocation was to address identified skills gaps and encourage skills development within the business community of the South West. These funds were fully expended and acquitted in 2004.
- (3) The Government is not paying for content. Content is a combination of free listings and paid content by private organisations. The amount of paid content by private organisations is not public information.