

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DEBT COLLECTION POLICY

2394. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Education and Training

I refer the Minister to question on notice No. 2021, asked on 16 September 2003, and ask -

- (a) what was the cause of the debt owed by M El Mugheiry;
- (b) what action was taken to recover the debt; and
- (c) why was this debt allowed to accrue to this level?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

- (a) Ms El Mugheiry was paid sick leave entitlements during a period of leave without pay.
- (b) The debt was assigned to a debt collector. Subsequent legal advice from both the Crown Solicitor and the Collection Agency's solicitor was that it would be difficult to obtain judgement against the debtor.
- (c) The debt accrued against the period of sick leave taken.