

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION — CODE OF CONDUCT

**1121. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:**

I refer to the Department of Environment and Conservation code of conduct dated April 2011.

- (1) Is every DEC employee required to sign the declaration on the code of conduct?
- (2) Under the provisions of the code, are employees required to disclose —
  - (a) donations to charities;
  - (b) political involvement of partners, siblings and children;
  - (c) voluntary work undertaken out of work hours; and
  - (d) membership of political parties?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Department of Environment and Conservation policy requires all staff to sign that they have read and understood the code of conduct.
- (2)
  - (a) No.
  - (b) Yes. The code of conduct requires employees to identify any conflicts of interest, or perceived or potential conflicts of interest, and disclose political involvement of family or close associates if the involvement has an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest.
  - (c) Yes. The code of conduct requires employees to identify any conflicts of interest, or perceived or potential conflicts of interest, and disclose voluntary work undertaken if involvement has an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest.
  - (d) No. The code of conduct does not require employees to disclose membership of political parties in the case of membership only. If a position is held in a political party that may present an actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest, a declaration is required.

Several members interjected.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order, members! Look, we are getting near the end of a long week, which is the end of a long year, so order!