

RED TAPE REDUCTION GROUP — TREASURY INITIATIVE

243. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Commerce
- (1) Which officers in the Department of Treasury and Finance developed the idea for the Red Tape Reduction Group?
  - (2) What consultation on the establishment of the Red Tape Reduction Group took place between officers of the Department of Treasury and Finance and other agencies in the Western Australian Government?
  - (3) Over what time period did that consultation take place?
  - (4) Who are the members of the Red Tape Reduction Group?
  - (5) What are the amounts of remuneration or allowances to be paid to each member of the Red Tape Reduction Group?
  - (6) What are the names and levels of the public servants providing administrative support to the Red Tape Reduction Group?
  - (7) What is the budget of the Red Tape Reduction Group?
  - (8) What are the terms of reference for the Red Tape Reduction Group?
  - (9) Who are the members and what are the levels of the regulatory gate keeping group in the Department of Treasury and Finance?
  - (10) What are the FTE per week allocated to the regulatory gate keeping group in the Department of Treasury and Finance?
  - (11) Will the Minister commit to making the final report of the Red Tape Reduction Group public
  - (12) If no to (11), why not?

Hon BARRY HOUSE replied:

- (1) The Red Tape Reduction Group (RTRG) is part of a broader regulatory reform process developed by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF). The specific RTRG initiative, chaired by two backbench Members of Parliament, was initiated by the Treasurer to complement the broader regulatory reform process. In this regard, the RTRG complements the initiatives being pursued under the Council of Australian Governments' Seamless National Economy.
- (2) Relevant agencies were able to make comments on the initiative through the Cabinet consultation process.
- (3) November 2008.
- (4) Hon Ken Baston MLC.  
Liza Harvey MLA.
- (5) Nil.
- (6) Acting Assistant Director - (Level 8)  
Principal Policy Officer - (Level 7)  
A/Policy Research Officer - (Level 5)  
Policy Research Officer - (Level 4)  
  
These public servants are providing administrative support to the RTRG in addition to their normal duties in the Regulatory Reform Unit.
- (7) The administrative support to the RTRG is funded internally through the budget of the Economic Reform Division in the DTF. The expected expenditure on the RTRG process will be approximately \$35,000.
- (8) The Terms of Reference of the RTRG are as follows:  
  
The RTRG has been established to identify and report on opportunities to reduce the burden of existing State regulation and red tape on business and consumers.  
  
The RTRG will:
  - a. identify specific areas of existing regulations and red tape which are unnecessarily burdensome, complex or redundant;

- b. identify regulations and red tape that should be removed or significantly reduced as a matter of priority; and
- c. recommend practical measures to alleviate the compliance costs of red tape on business, government and the community.

In undertaking its functions, the RTRG will consult widely around the State with business (including small and medium sized businesses), industry groups and local governments. The RTRG will be required to: deliver a final report to the Treasurer for submission to the Economic and Expenditure Reform Committee within 9 months of its establishment.

- (9) Dedicated positions and levels in the Regulatory Gatekeeping Unit (RGU) are:

- Acting Assistant Director - (Level 8)
- Principal Policy Officer - (Level 7)
- Senior Policy Officer - (Level 6)
- Policy Research Officer - (Level 5)
- Business Manager - (Level 4)

These positions are occupied by permanent public servants.

- (10) FTE per week allocation dedicated to the RGU is 5.
- (11) The report will be presented to the Economic and Expenditure Reform Committee and Cabinet for consideration. Cabinet will determine what information will be released publicly.
- (12) Not applicable.