MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT — COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE

204.   Hon SHELLEY EATON to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

In reference to office equipment allocated by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet for members of Parliament, the Parliamentary office handbook issued by DPC in October 2008 indicates at point 9.0 that office equipment will be provided to parliamentary electorate offices and includes computing equipment and software as approved by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. Can the Premier advise since 1 October 2008 —

(1)   What is the standard computing equipment and software approved for each member of Parliament?

(2)   What variations, if any, have been approved for individual members?

(3)   What is the policy rationale behind any approved variations?

Hon NORMAN MOORE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

(1)   Standard computing equipment and software provided by the department for each member of Parliament is as follows —

> Computer equipment: desktop computer x 2, Intel Core2 Duo CPU 2.33 GHz, 2 GB ram, 19-inch monitor; backup device x 1; black and white laser printer x 1; four-port ADSL modem x 1.

> Software installed on each supported computer: Microsoft Windows XP; Microsoft Office 2007, including Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint and Publisher; and third party electorate management system.

(2)   One member has an additional desktop computer placed in her office by the department for use by contract staff engaged to assist the member with research and advisory services related to dealing with government legislation.

(3)   This arrangement was a result of a cabinet decision and is consistent with a similar approach taken by the previous government.