



Office Of Director General

25 March 2009

Your Ref:

Our Ref: A985165

Enquiries: Joanne Hunt

Hon Sue Ellery MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Honourable Member

INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE

I refer to your letter of 11 March 2009 in which you seek information in relation to the transfer of mine safety inspectors to the new Department of Mines and Petroleum. The following responses are provided:

Question:

Response:

1: Are mining inspectors now employed by the Department of Mines and Petroleum?

Yes

What section of the Department do they work for?

Resources Safety Division,
Department of Mines and Petroleum

Were the mining inspectors previously employed by WorkSafe?

No. The Resources Safety Division was located as a separate division of the former Department of Consumer and Employment Protection.

When were they transferred?

They were transferred from the Resources Safety Division, of the former Department of Consumer and Employment Protection on 1 January 2009.

2. Why was the Mine Safety Inspectorate transferred to the Department of Mines and Petroleum?

Cabinet decision of 27 October 2008.

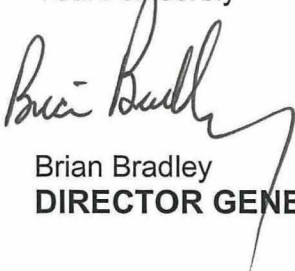
3. What was the total cost of administering the Mine Safety Inspectorate at WorkSafe and what is the total cost of administering the Mine Safety Inspectorate at the Department of Mines and Petroleum?

\$18.384 million as per the 2008/09 Budget papers for the Resources Safety Division of the former Department of Consumer and Employment Protection. It is intended for the balance of unspent monies against this expenditure to be transferred to the new Department of Mines and Petroleum.

4. If any cost saving has been achieved by transferring the Mines Safety Inspectorate to the Department of Mines and Petroleum, how and where have costs been saved?

See response to question 2

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Bradley', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Bradley
DIRECTOR GENERAL