

LOCAL GOVERNMENT — INVESTIGATION TRAINING

5277. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the answer in Assembly Estimates Committee B on 21 May 2019 by Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Director General Mr Duncan Ord that investigation training is available to section staff, and I ask:

- (a) Has the department had a shortage of investigators to scrutinise local government:
  - (i) If yes, how many investigators does the department require;
  - (ii) How many investigator positions are filled;
  - (iii) What is the lowest number of investigators in the department since April 2017, when was it and for how long;
  - (iv) Was the shortage of investigators the result of Machinery of Government changes; and
  - (v) When does the department expect to fill the vacant investigator positions?

**Mr D.A. Templeman replied:**

- (a) There has been a reduction in investigators through the voluntary redundancy process.
  - (i) The structure of the investigations team is currently being finalised.
  - (ii) Three
  - (iii) Three, 17 May 2019 to date.
  - (iv) A number of investigators elected to take up voluntary redundancy.
  - (v) A recruitment process has been completed and appointments are expected to be finalised shortly.