

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SPORT AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES —
LOCAL GOVERNMENT INQUIRIES

5290. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the current Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries authorised inquiries into local governments, and ask:

- (a) Who makes the final decision that a council should be investigated; and
- (b) What processes are followed before sanctioning an authorised inquiry?

Mr D.A. Templeman replied:

- (a) Under the provisions of section 8.3(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act) the Departmental Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or his delegate, has authority to inquire into all local governments and their operations and affairs. There is also provision under section 8.3(4) of the Act for the Minister to direct the CEO.
- (b) Prior to seeking an Authorised Inquiry departmental officers undertake an examination of the relevant issues to determine whether there is, in the view of the officers, sufficient justification to warrant an investigation of this nature. Advice and recommendations are then presented to the CEO for consideration.