

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN - ACCOUNTABILITY AND STATISTICS ON OFFICES AND STAFF

2311. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; Peel

- (1) What was the maximum number (head count) of employees who were engaged in communications, marketing, speechwriting or media (including public, corporate and media relations) for the Department and the Minister in March 2007?
  - (a) What was the job title for each of these employees; and
  - (b) What is the salary band for each of these employees?
- (2) How many people resigned (not retired) from each agency under the Minister's control in March 2007 (please list each agency)?
- (3) How many consultants were engaged by agencies under the Minister's control in March 2007 and what was the task and cost of each?
- (4) How many of the following were stolen, lost or went missing from agencies (including the Ministerial office) under the Minister's control in March 2007 (please list agencies) -
  - (a) laptops, notebooks, palm computers;
  - (b) mobile phones; and
  - (c) government-owned cars?
- (5) How much money was spent in March 2007 on the following by agencies under the Minister's control -
  - (a) market research/polling;
  - (b) television advertising;
  - (c) print media advertising; and
  - (d) radio advertising?
- (6) What requests made for additional resources or funding were rejected or only partially approved by the Minister in March 2007 and what were the reasons for those rejections?
- (7) How much money did the Minister and Ministerial staff spend on travel in March 2007 and what was the nature of each trip undertaken?
- (8) How much money did the Minister spend on the Ministerial Credit Card in March 2007 (please give reasons for each spend over \$200)?
- (9) How much money did the Minister's Chief of Staff, media advisor and executive officer spend on their government credit cards in March 2007 (please give reasons for each spend over \$200)?
- (10) How much money did the Minister spend on office furniture, ornaments, art and other items, excluding items of an operational nature, for the Ministerial office in March 2007 (please provide a breakdown of all items in excess of \$200)?
- (11) Who did the Minister purchase food and/or alcohol for, using Government funds in March 2007, and -
  - (a) how much was spent in each case;
  - (b) where was the purchase made; and
  - (c) why was Government money used in each case?
- (12) How many appointment free week days did the Minister have in March 2007?
- (13) Can the Minister advise which policy change requests made by Departmental or Ministerial staff in March 2007 were -
  - (a) rejected;
  - (b) approved; and
  - (c) not yet dealt with?
- (14) On how many occasions in March 2007 did the Minister visit -
  - (a) the departmental Head Office of each agency under the Minister's control; and
  - (b) any other departmental facility relevant to each agency under the Minister's control?
- (15) On how many occasions in March 2007 did the Minister visit a regional area?

- (16) On how many occasions in March 2007 did the Minister meet with the Director General of the Department of each agency under his/her control?
- (17) Can the Minister outline the nature of all requests made by Government Members of Parliament for policy changes or funding increases within the department in March 2007?
- (18) Did the Minister give any “off the record” briefings to any journalists about any matter relating to the Minister’s responsibilities in March 2007 and if so, what was the nature of those briefings?
- (19) Did the Minister give any comments to any journalists in March 2007 relating to the Minister’s responsibilities with a caveat that the comments not be attributed directly to the Minister?
- (a) If yes, can the Minister advise the nature of the comments in each case?
- (20) At any time in March 2007, did the Minister or any Ministerial staff meet with or talk to the following, and if so what was the nature of that meeting or discussion -
- (a) Julian Grill;
- (b) Brian Burke;
- (c) Megan Anwyl; and
- (d) John Halden?
- (21) What was the total amount of money spent by the Minister’s office on -
- (a) plant hire and purchases; and
- (b) flower hire or purchases?
- (22) What was the total number, and the total value of insurance claims made through RiskCover by the Ministerial Office?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

Refer to question on notice 1953.