

FOSTER REPORT, CROWN SOLICITOR'S OFFICE

**520. Hon TOM HELM to the minister representing the Minister for Works; Services:**

Further to question without notice 468 of 15 November -

- (1) Can the minister advise whether the Crown Solicitor's Office was sent a copy of the Foster report?
- (2) If not, how can the minister claim that the Crown Solicitor's Office has exhaustively investigated this matter?
- (3) If yes, will the minister request that the copy be returned from the Crown Solicitor's Office?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) I also draw the minister's attention to item 25, page 6 of the freedom of information compliance annual report, which mentions reports in existence elsewhere.

**Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) As the member is aware, it is the minister's understanding that there is no written report.
- (2) The Crown Solicitor's Office considered all files and correspondence on this matter, including those provided by Lynch Interiors.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) As in answer to question (1), there is no written report. Mr Foster provided a verbal report to the then Minister for Works. I refer the member to the answer to parliamentary question 910 of 22 December 1998, at page 5907 of *Hansard* on 9 March 1999, in which he was advised that the report was verbal.
- (5) It is not clear from the member's question to which report he is referring. The Office of the Information Commissioner was also unable to identify the referenced report. The minister would be pleased to provide a reply if the member could be more specific.