

POST-MORTEM INQUIRIES

266. Hon Jim Scott to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health

Further to Question on Notice No 209 of 29 August 2001. As families of deceased persons subject to post mortems have complained of the difficulties in maintaining a dialogue with an officer dedicated to dealing with their inquiries -

- (1) Who is in charge of this function?
- (2) Will the minister name the positions and the officers dealing with this issue?
- (3) How many officers have been dealing with this issue during the term of this Government and how many officers have left, been replaced or gone on leave during this same period?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

- (1) The Director of the Legal and Legislative Services Branch of the Department of Health.

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| (2) | Position | Periods involved |
| | Director | March to June 2001 |
| | Senior Lawyer | March to June 2001 |
| | Senior Lawyer | March to June 2001 |
| | Senior Lawyer | March to June 2001 |
| | Investigative Officer | March to June 2001 |

Release of Interim Report June 2001

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| Director | June to October 2001 |
| A/Director | October 2001 ongoing |
| Senior Lawyer | June 2001 ongoing |
| Senior Lawyer | June 2001 ongoing |
| Investigative Officer | June 2001 ongoing |

Due to the particularly sensitive nature of this inquiry and the reactions of a number of the relatives who have been contacted it is not considered that it is appropriate to release the names of the officers dealing with this issue.

- (3) A total of seven officers have been dealing with this issue during the term of this Government. None of the officers have left during the period of the inquiry. The investigative officer has continued through the entire term of the inquiry in his role as contact person for the families of deceased persons who have contacted the Department of Health.