

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, RECYCLED PRODUCTS, PURCHASE

1733. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works

Further to question on notice No. 1221 of September 9 2003 -

- (1) Will the Minister explain what the Government has done to encourage all Government agencies to buy recycled products?
- (2) Will the Minister provide data to demonstrate the results he has achieved as a result of encouraging all Government agencies to buy recycled goods?

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS replied:

State Supply Commission

The Government's supply policies, administered by the State Supply Commission, promote the purchase and use of recycled products. In particular, the Supporting Other Government Policies and Initiatives policy states that "where a public authority purchases a good and a recycled/recyclable option has been offered, consideration shall be given to that option during the evaluation process."

The Government's strong support to encourage the use of recyclable products by government agencies has assisted in promoting greater awareness and improved competitiveness of these products within the public sector procurement market.

A notable example of these activities is the recent award of the whole-of-Government Common Use Contract for the supply of Copy Paper, Envelopes (inclusive of Overprinting) and Office Stationery. These new arrangements came into force on 1 December 2003 and are mandatory for all public authorities. Apart from achieving a reduction in the prices paid by many agencies, these contracts also provide a broad range of recycled options, including the use of 60% recycled copy paper and envelopes.