

PROCUREMENT REFORM, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND REGIONAL BUSINESS ANALYSIS

1480. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the minister representing the Treasurer:

In answer to my question without notice 1446 on 11 November 2003 regarding procurement reform, the Treasurer advised that it was not the Government's intention to centralise procurement to the metropolitan area for all government departments.

- (1) Will the minister advise which government departments will be required to secure procurement contracts from the metropolitan area?
- (2) Has a business analysis been carried out on the effect on regional business?
- (3) If so, will the Treasurer table the document?

Hon NICK GRIFFITHS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question. I saw an answer to this question earlier, but it had not been signed off by the Treasurer. I queried the second part of the answer because I was not sure whether the Treasurer had seen it. The answer I am about to give is in accord with what I thought to be the case.

- (1) It is not the intention of the Government to centralise procurement to the metropolitan area for any government department. The Government has been conducting a three-phased review of the way procurement is managed within the State. The first phase, a strategic review, has been completed. The strategic review recommended that a single body be responsible for the management of goods and services procurement across the general government sector. It also suggested that there was an opportunity to group procurement resources in major regional centres by establishing local procurement professional units. The Government will consider the recommendations of the remaining two phases of the review later this year. They will cover benchmarking data and more detailed implementation plans.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.