

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, HIGH OR SIGNIFICANT RISK RATING

144. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Works:

Further to question on notice 2395 of 2000 -

- (1) Will the Minister for Works advise details of the six contracts under CAMS administrative control that have been rated as having a risk rating of high or significant?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) Will the Minister advise details of the 12 projects under CAMS administrative control that have been rated as having a risk rating of high or significant?
- (4) If not, why not?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1)-(4) The Minister for Works is not prepared to release details of the CAMS contracts and projects rated as having a risk rating of high or significant while these contracts or projects are current. The contract risk rating system used by CAMS is an administrative tool used in the deliberate process of determining contract and process strategies. Ratings tend to be high in the early stages when there are a number of unknowns and management strategies have not yet been determined. Some projects may have high risk ratings simply because funding or location are not confirmed at the time they are registered on the CAMS system. Others may have high ratings because of their inherent risk, such as prison security, personal databases and the like.

Releasing details may mislead the public about the level of inherent risk associated with contracts and projects because of initially high risk ratings. In other cases projects could be compromised and the level of risk increased by –

- highlighting vulnerable areas for criminal or terrorist activity;
- releasing information about security systems and strategies; or
- compromising the State's position in negotiations and disputes.

The Minister for Works has advised that he is prepared to provide the member with a briefing on the CAMS risk rating process if required.