



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**QUESTIONS  
AND  
ANSWERS**

No. 17

WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2007

(The Questions and Answers Paper published for the first sitting day in each week will contain, by number and title, all unanswered questions, together with questions to which answers have been received on the previous sitting and any new questions. On subsequent days, new questions are printed, as are questions to which answers were received the previous day. Consequently the full text of any question will be printed only twice: when notice is given; and, when answered.)

Notice given on date shown

<b>Publication of Questions</b>	<b>Answer to be lodged by</b>
Q & A No. 16 (Including Question Nos 0179 to 0180)	30 October 2007
Q & A No. 17 (Including Question Nos 0181 to 0182)	31 October 2007

**26 SEPTEMBER 2007**

(Paper No. 17)

0181 COMMERCE—TRAVEL BOOKING FEES—Ms Hale to ask the Minister for Roads, and Minister for Commerce—

- (1) How much has NSW Parliament paid Carlson Wagonlit for travel booking fees for Members of Parliament and Parliamentary staff since commencement of the contract?
- (2) How much was paid to the previous contractor for an equivalent period?
- (3) Why are members and staff not able to organise fee-free booking transactions, for example over the Internet?
- (4) If the contract with Carlson Wagonlit was terminated, how much is it estimated this would save?
- (5) The information provided on the Commerce website on Contract 1008 states that: "This state contract allows users to achieve considerable cost savings due to the combined purchasing power of the NSW government" and "it offers value for money including competitive rates, and a quality range of products and services". In this regard:
  - (a) Can you identify specific cost savings in respect to booking fees?
  - (b) What competitive rates are available that are not otherwise available?
  - (c) Are the airfares or other transport fares on offer any cheaper than fares available via the Internet?
- (6) The website further states that: "All NSW government agencies are obliged to use the Travel Management Services contract". Does this prevent a Member of Parliament booking their own travel via the Internet, avoiding the \$31 fee, and claiming reimbursement?
- (7) What are the advantages of entering into the Carlson Wagonlit contract rather than continuing with the prior arrangements?
- (8)
  - (a) What would prevent Parliament from adopting an alternate and transaction-cost free method of making travel bookings for members, such as a Member's staff booking travel online as part of their normal work duties?
  - (b) Why can't Members use their own credit cards to pay for such bookings and be reimbursed by Member Services upon presentation of supporting paperwork?
- (9)
  - (a) Do we need such a contract at all?
  - (b) If so, why?
- (10)
  - (a) Is it a waste of taxpayers' money given the high transaction costs (\$31 to \$195 per booking)?
  - (b) If so, why?
- (11)
  - (a) Is the contract publicly available?
  - (b) If so, please direct me to an electronic version?
- (12) Given that JP Morgan's Australia is a donor to the Labor and Liberal parties, and that JP Morgan Chase and Co's US affiliate One Equity owns half of Carlson Wagonlit, was any preference given to Carlson Wagonlit on the basis of donations to the Labor Party?

0182 PLANNING—RE-PACKAGING FACILITY FOR HCB—Mr Cohen to ask the Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure, and Minister for the Hunter representing the Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo, Minister for the Arts—

- (1) Is the approved re-packaging facility for Hexachlorobenzene (HCB) at the Orica site designed to:
  - (a) repackage the HCB waste so that it is more secure than at present?
  - (b) to place it in packaging designed to assist it being fed into German incinerators?
  - (c) for some other purpose?

- (i) If so, what?
- (2) In the absence of approvals for import of the waste into Germany, is Orica proceeding to repackage the HCB waste in this facility?

Lynn Lovelock  
Clerk of the Parliaments

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Authorised by the Parliament of New South Wales