



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

MEMORANDUM

| | | | |
|----|---|-----|---|
| To | Hon Peter Breen MLC Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Hon Edward Obeid MLC Hon Charlie Lynn MLC Hon Greg Pearce MLC Hon John Tingle MLC Hon Ian West MLC | cc: | Hon Peter Primrose MLC Hon Don Harwin MLC Hon Melinda Pavey MLC |
|----|---|-----|---|

| | |
|------|------------------------------|
| From | Budget Estimates Secretariat |
|------|------------------------------|

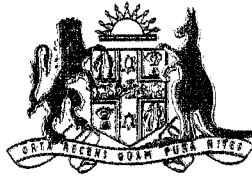
| | |
|---------|---|
| Subject | Answers to Questions on Notice –Justice |
|---------|---|

| | |
|------|-----------------|
| Date | 21 October 2004 |
|------|-----------------|

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Reference | |
|-----------|--|

Please find attached a copy of the answers provided to the questions taken on notice by the Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Justice at the Budget Estimates hearing on Tuesday 14 September 2004.

Tanya Bosch
Director, Budget Estimates



New South Wales
Minister for Justice

Director
General Purpose Standing Committees
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY 2000

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
COMMITTEES**

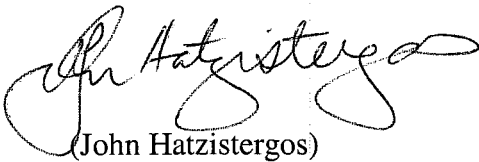
21 OCT 2004

RECEIVED

Dear Director,

Please find enclosed responses to the Questions on Notice taken during the Budget Estimates hearing on the Justice Portfolio before the General Purpose Standing Committee No.3 on 14 September 2004.

Yours faithfully


(John Hatzistergos)

1. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Commissioner of Corrective Services, Mr WOODHAM -

- (a) Would you be able to provide to the Committee the roster for Mr Campbell, showing how many hours of work he is putting in at Goulburn gaol?
- (b) Can you provide to the Committee the details of the costs that are picked up by the Department of Corrective Services?

Answer:

- (a) I am advised that Mr John Campbell is not working at Goulburn Correctional Centre.
- (b) I am advised that in the 2003-2004 financial year, the Department of Corrective Services has not paid Mr Campbell any travel, meal or accommodation allowances, nor has the Department paid any of his telephone costs.

2. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Commissioner of Corrective Services, Mr WOODHAM -

- (a) Can you also provide any details, if it is applicable – we believe it is – for a housing allowance for Mr Campbell that is picked up by the Department of Corrective Services?
- (b) And any telephone costs reimbursed to Mr Campbell whether they be mobile phones or home phones.
- (c) And any meal allowances or travelling away from home allowances that Mr Campbell receives through the Department of Corrective Services.

Answer:

- (a) I am advised that in the 2003-2004 financial year, the Department of Corrective Services has not paid Mr Campbell any accommodation allowances.
- (b) I am advised that in the 2003-2004 financial year, the Department of Corrective Services has not paid any of Mr Campbell's telephone costs.
- (c) I am advised that in the 2003-2004 financial year, the Department of Corrective Services has not paid Mr Campbell any meal or travel allowances.

3. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Commissioner of Corrective Services, Mr WOODHAM –

- (a) How many [female employees] leave [the Department of Corrective Services] because of sexual harassment?
- (b) [Of the 22 female employees shown on page 133 of the Department's 2002-2003 Annual Report as having left the Department in 2002-2003, how many left because of bullying and harassment?]

Answer:

- (a) & (b) The Department of Corrective Services does not collate reasons why employees leave the Department, as it is not compulsory for officers to give reasons for their resignation.

However, I am advised that in 2002-2003, 24 female employees left the Department of Corrective Services (the discrepancy between this figure and the figure given in the Annual Report is owing to the fact that 2 additional resignation were processed subsequent to the printing of the Annual Report). Of these 24 female employees:

- 1 was dismissed;
- 1 died;
- 1 was annulled;
- 1 medically retired;
- 1 abandoned employment; and
- 19 resigned – leaving the workforce.

4. The Hon. CHARLIE LYNN asked the Commissioner of Corrective Services, Mr WOODHAM –

- (a) Do you do stocktakes of demountable classrooms at Cessnock Correctional Centre?
- (b) How many have gone missing in the past year, and have there been any investigation claims that staff have sold the buildings at personal profit?
- (c) If so, what action has been taken?
- (d) Will you investigate the situation with demountables at Cessnock?

Answer:

- (a) No. I am advised that the Department of Education and Training carries out an annual audit of all demountables stored at Cessnock.
- (b) I am advised that records maintained by the Department of Education and Training and the Business Unit, show that no demountables are unaccounted for. Accordingly, no investigations have needed to be carried out.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Not applicable.

5. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Commissioner of Corrective Services, Mr WOODHAM –

- (a) So the sprinkler systems just turned off? Or is it still operating; is it all back to normal?
- (b) Have you been able to identify the problem?

Answer:

- (a) I am advised that the sprinkler system at Silverwater Correctional Complex is, and always has been, fully operational.
- (b) I am advised that no problem currently exists.

6. The Hon. JOHN TINGLE asked the Minister for Corrective Services, the Hon. JOHN HATZISTERGOS -

How many additional field staff have been employed to provide supervision and programs for offenders in the community on court-based parole?

Answer:

I am advised that a total of 25 probation and parole officer positions have been established for the management of parolees who, as a result of the commencement of the *Crimes Legislation Amendment (Parole) Act 2003*, will be subject to parole supervision. This Act created a presumption in favour of parole supervision in respect of a parole order made by a court.

I am advised that 21 of the 25 positions have been filled. The Department is currently recruiting to fill the remaining 4 positions.

7. The Hon. MELINDA PAVEY asked the Executive Director, Finance and Asset Management, Mr SCHIPP –

You will take it on notice and have a look at the issue of the original \$3.8 million fire service installation contract being upped by \$300,000 to install this new boiler?

Answer:

I am advised that the installation of a new boiler at Long Bay Correctional Complex was treated as a variation to a contract. Government procurement and probity issues were observed and managed by the Department of Commerce on behalf of the Department of Corrective Services.

8. The Hon. CHARLIE LYNN asked the Minister for Corrective Services, the Hon. JOHN HATZISTERGOS -

- (a) How many complaints were there by inmates of staff assaulting or abusing inmates?
- (b) How many did you refer to the police?

Answer:

- (a) The Department does not collate the number of complaints made by inmates on these matters.
- (b) The Department takes allegations of assaults on inmates by officers seriously and has a rigorous review and investigative process.

Procedures for referral of such matters are described in section 13 of the Department's *Operations Procedures Manual*.

Local Police authorities have control over any ongoing investigation and any decision to prosecute rests solely with them.

I am advised that in the 2003-2004 financial year, no criminal charges were laid against staff for assaults upon inmates.