

- (10) How much money did the Minister spend on office furniture, ornaments, art and other items, excluding items of an operational nature, for the Ministerial office last month (please provide a breakdown of all items in excess of \$200)?
- (11) Who did the Minister purchase food and/or alcohol for, using Government funds last month, and -
- (a) how much was spent in each case;
  - (b) where was the purchase made; and
  - (c) why was Government money used in each case?
- (12) How many appointment free week days did the Minister have last month?
- (13) Can the Minister advise which policy change requests made by Departmental or Ministerial staff last month were -
- (a) rejected;
  - (b) approved; and
  - (c) not yet dealt with?
- (14) On how many occasions last month did the Minister visit -
- (a) the Departmental Head Office of each agency under the Minister's control; and
  - (b) any other Departmental facility relevant to each agency under the Minister's control?
- (15) On how many occasions last month did the Minister visit a regional area?
- (16) On how many occasions last month did the Minister meet with the Director General of the Department of each agency under her control?
- (17) Can the Minister outline the nature of all requests made by Government Members of Parliament for policy changes or funding increases within the Department last month?
- (18) Did the Minister give any "off the record" briefings to any journalists about any matter relating to the Minister's responsibilities last month and if so, what was the nature of those briefings?
- (19) Did the Minister give any comments to any journalists last month relating to the Minister's responsibilities with a caveat that the comments not be attributed directly to the Minister?
- (a) If yes, can the Minister advise the nature of the comments in each case?
- (20) At any time last month, did the Minister or any Ministerial staff meet with or talk to the following, and if so what was the nature of that meeting or discussion -
- (a) Julian Grill;
  - (b) Brian Burke;
  - (c) Megan Anwyl; and
  - (d) John Halden?
- (21) What was the total amount of money spent by the Minister's office on -
- (a) plant hire and purchases; and
  - (b) flower hire or purchases?
- (22) What was the total number, and the total value of insurance claims made through RiskCover by the Ministerial Office?

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN replied:

I am unable to provide answers to all the questions on notice due to the extraordinary wide scope of information being sought.

To develop a response would require a significant and unreasonable allocation of Government resources to source and collate all information requested.

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING - TEACHER RECRUITMENT

1966. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Education and Training

- (1) Can the Minister advise how many teachers graduated in 2006.
- (2) Can the Minister advise how many of these graduate teachers applied for positions with the State Education Department in 2006/2007?

- (3) Can the Minister advise how many of these graduate teachers received full time positions?
- (4) Can the Minister advise how many graduate teachers have not been offered positions?
- (5) Can the Minister advise if graduate teachers who have not been successful in obtaining a posting in any of their three first choices are offered positions in other areas?
  - (a) if not, why not?
- (6) Is the Minister aware of any graduate teachers who are seeking employment and have not been offered any positions in any regions within Western Australia?
- (7) Can the Minister advise why teachers from the United Kingdom are being recruited when graduate teachers in Western Australia are not being offered positions?
- (8) Can the Minister advise what the terms of the contract any United Kingdom or other overseas teachers will be offered?
- (9) Can the Minister advise if any of the United Kingdom or other overseas teachers recruited will be able to remain in Australia after completion of their initial contract?
- (10) Can the Minister please confirm if any United Kingdom or other overseas teachers will be only recruited for remote rural areas?
- (11) After serving in remote areas for a period of time, will these overseas recruited teachers be allowed to transfer to metropolitan or regional areas in the future?
- (12) How will the Minister guarantee that no United Kingdom or overseas recruited teachers will fill a position/posting at the expense of Western Australian teacher and graduate positions?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

The Department has advised as follows:

- (1) 1,975.
- (2) 1,500 graduates applied to the Department of Education and Training.
- (3) 626 graduates have full time positions as of Wednesday 28 March, 2007.
- (4) 634 graduates have not been offered positions as of Wednesday 28 March, 2007.
- (5) Graduate teachers are considered for all teaching locations that they make themselves available for and are qualified to teach.
- (6) The Department only offers positions to graduates according to the preferences they submit. Graduates that have not been offered positions to date are those that have not made themselves available for the current vacancies.
- (7) Local graduate teachers are offered positions in those schools in which they have indicated a willingness to teach and where a vacancy occurs. The teachers recruited from the United Kingdom are appointed to teaching positions in schools that local graduate teachers have declined.
- (8) Teachers recruited from overseas, including the United Kingdom, are sponsored for a temporary (long-stay) business visa, class 457. They are offered a three-year contract to work in public schools in rural Western Australia with salaries and conditions in line with the School Education Act Employees (Teachers and Administrators) General Agreement 2006.
- (9) In the third year of the contract period, the Department of Education and Training will offer to sponsor the teachers from overseas for permanent residence in Australia, providing their service as a teacher has been satisfactory.
- (10) Teachers from overseas, including the United Kingdom, have only been recruited for rural schools. They have taken up appointments in Hedland, Newman, Katanning, Tom Price, Manjimup, Karratha, Carnarvon, Kalgoorlie, Halls Creek, Broome and Esperance.
- (11) Teachers will be able to apply for positions in metropolitan or other regional schools if they become permanent residents of Australia and when they meet the Department of Education and Training requirements for permanent teacher status.
- (12) Sponsored overseas teachers are appointed to vacancies in learning areas of need and difficult to staff locations. These are vacancies to which the Department has not been able to attract a local teacher or graduate.