

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS — HUAWEI

21. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the briefing note I provided to the minister earlier from the Public Transport Authority, titled “Briefing note for the Minister for Transport—Issue: spectrum and radio services update”, which was signed by the minister on 20 June 2018.

- (1) Can the minister confirm that the briefing note has a clear recommendation from the Public Transport Authority that she must advise cabinet regarding issues associated with the radio replacement project contract, subsequently awarded to Huawei?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that she circled “approved” to the department’s recommendation to advise cabinet of issues prior to Huawei winning the contract?
- (3) Given the minister approved the recommendation to advise cabinet of issues, why did she change her mind and not take it to cabinet?

Mr S.K. L’Estrange: Good question.

The SPEAKER: Yes, can we hear the answer.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

- (1) No.
- (2)–(3) Not applicable.

Why did the member for Scarborough mislead this house yesterday? She said, “In fact, the advice we have uncovered in this process —

Point of Order

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The minister appears to be reading from uncorrected *Hansard*.

Several members interjected.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: No, these are the notes I wrote yesterday.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for Scarborough said, “The advice we have recovered in this process from the Public Transport Authority shows that it wanted the minister to take this to cabinet. We believe that the minister didn’t take it to cabinet, so is trying to wash her hands of it.” Where does it say in this memo that I needed to take the contract to cabinet? It does not say that! The member for Scarborough made it up yesterday. As with everything she has done in this case, she has misquoted and misled on every count. This memo did not say that.