

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS — APPOINTMENT

Question without Notice 29 — Answer Advice

HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the House) [5.10 pm]: I have an answer to Hon Michael Mischin's question without notice 29 about the appointment of the Director of Public Prosecutions. I provide that answer now.

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

The call for expressions of interest for appointment as Director of Public Prosecutions was publicly advertised during the term of the former government and a panel, chaired by the Solicitor General, considered each application, conducted interviews with selected applicants and consulted with interested persons. In accordance with ordinary conventions of cabinet, the Attorney General was not provided with any cabinet submissions prepared for the former government and is unaware of any decisions made by the former cabinet on this issue. The Attorney General independently assessed the results of the panel's inquiries and recommendations, including the interviews conducted, and took further advice on this issue. His decision to recommend Ms Forrester's appointment as Director of Public Prosecutions to the new cabinet was based upon her outstanding qualifications and extensive experience, without any reference to any decisions made by the former government.

[See page 57.]