

MINISTER FOR POLICE — PRINCIPAL POLICY ADVISER — LORNA CLARKE

**756. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:**

I refer to the answer provided to my question of yesterday, 31 October, regarding Ms Lorna Clarke's employment within the office of the Minister for Police and her local government election campaign, and the management of her conflict of interest.

- (1) What precisely were the "strategies" referred to in the previous answer that were developed to "manage and mitigate any potential, perceived or actual conflicts of interest"?
- (2) Can the abovementioned "strategies" be tabled; and, if not, why not?
- (3) Which particular pieces of campaign material did Ms Clarke present for vetting by officers of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and on what basis was this material deemed "satisfactory"?
- (4) Can the abovementioned campaign material be tabled, along with the reasons provided by the DPC, as to their acceptability; and, if not, why not?
- (5) In respect of part (1), which individual person in particular was responsible for ensuring that Ms Clarke complied with her employment obligations throughout her election campaign; was it the minister, the minister's chief of staff, the director general of the DPC or some other person?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(2) The strategies put in place within the ministerial office and supported by the department included removing Ms Clarke from any direct involvement on any issue that related to the City of Bayswater, not using any of the department's resources, including her time while at work to conduct any business associated with her local government candidacy, and minimising public comments on subjects that conflict with her duties in the ministerial office.
- (3)–(4) I am advised that the material presented to the department did not represent a perceived, potential or actual conflict of interest with Ms Clarke's official position within the office of the Minister for Police; Road Safety. If there is any particular campaign material that is of concern to the member, I invite him to refer the material to me directly.
- (5) Ms Clarke is responsible for complying with her employment obligations set out in the department's code of conduct and section 9 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994.