

RED TAPE REDUCTION GROUP REPORT

365. Hon KATE DOUST to the minister representing the Treasurer:

I refer to the then Treasurer's media statement of 24 February 2010—I suppose that is the then then Treasurer!—titled “Red Tape Reduction blueprint released”.

- (1) Will the government provide a response to the Red Tape Reduction Group report; and, if not, why not?
- (2) If yes to (1), when will this be completed, and will the minister table this completed report; and, if not, why not?
- (3) Of the 107 recommendations provided in the report —
 - (a) how many of these recommendations have been accepted; will the minister please identify each recommendation; does the government have an implementation time line for the recommendations that have been accepted; and, if yes, will the minister table this item; and, if not, why not;
 - (b) how many of these recommendations have been rejected; will the minister please identify the recommendations and the reason why they have been rejected; and
 - (c) how many of these recommendations have been accepted in part; will the minister please identify the recommendations and the reason why they have been accepted only in part; and will the minister please provide the time line for their implementation?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

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

- (1)–(3) The member phrased the question as if she were addressing it to the Treasurer today, but she referred to asking something of the previous Treasurer.

Hon Kate Doust: Who was to know what happened yesterday?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Yes, I acknowledge —

Hon Ken Travers interjected.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: No, the current Treasurer has been Treasurer before, but before this notice was given.

Hon Kate Doust: Whoever was Treasurer on 24 February 2010.

The PRESIDENT: Order! The question is to the office of Treasurer, and I think that is the point the Minister for Finance is making; he is in a representative capacity in this chamber.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Indeed I am, and I am trying to help the honourable member, Mr President. If the member is specifically asking the Treasurer today, rather than the member who was Treasurer when notice was given of this question back on 15 May, I would have to say that I do not have an answer from the Treasurer. But I can give the member the answer dated 15 May, which —

The PRESIDENT: Minister, I think that is enough help for now. Let us go to the answer.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Mr President, I qualify that. It is important that the opposition sometimes picks up on these important technicalities!

Hon Ed Dermer interjected.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Mr President, these unruly interjections are stopping me from answering the question! The answer is that the government is currently considering its response to the Red Tape Reduction Group report as part of a broader package of regulatory reform. It has yet to release a formal response to the report.