

MINISTER FOR FINANCE

Question without Notice 40 — Barnett Government — Tax Reform Measures — Personal Explanation

HON SIMON O'BRIEN (South Metropolitan — Minister for Finance) [10.08 am] — by leave: I thank the house for its courtesy and advise that when answering a question from Hon Ken Travers yesterday, I stated in part, “Measures have been put in place to provide a rebate of the past year’s payroll tax to a very large number of eligible businesses this financial year.” At the end of my answer, according to the uncorrected *Hansard*, Hon Ken Travers asks by interjection —

Minister, can you confirm whether the payroll tax rebate is for this year?

To which my recorded reply is —

Yes, it is. I said so.

The reason that my statement appears to contradict my earlier assertion is that I misheard Hon Ken Travers’ question by interjection as, “Can you confirm whether the payroll tax rebate is paid this year?” The answer to that question is, of course, yes. For the sake of clarity and for the record, a rebate on payroll tax will be allowed this financial year for payroll tax initially paid to government last financial year.

The PRESIDENT: For members’ information, under standing order 85, personal explanations may not be debated.