

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES SUPERANNUATION BOARD — REDUNDANCY PAYMENTS

5382. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Finance representing the Treasurer

Regarding redundancy payments made to former employees of the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB), I ask —

- (1) What termination payment did former GESB Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ms Dolin receive?
- (2) How was this payment calculated?
- (3) Who has been working as CEO since Ms Dolin left GESB and at what annual remuneration?
- (4) When was the long term appointment for a new Chief Executive Officer made and at what annual remuneration?
- (5) For each Executive Officer who left GESB last financial year, or this financial year, or who is known to be leaving GESB this financial year —
 - (a) what is his/her name;
 - (b) what was/is his/her position; and
 - (c) what was/will be his/her termination payment? Please provide total and a breakdown showing each component.
- (6) If not contained in the answer to (5), please provide similar information regarding the termination payments for —
 - (a) Ms Michelle Ahearn;
 - (b) Ms Collene Hansen; and
 - (c) Ms Sharon Hicks.
- (7) For each termination payment at (5) or (6), was it made from the general budget of GESB, or general revenue?
- (8) How did Ms Ahearn's employment with and departure from GESB impact on the liability of Gold State Super?
- (9) Regarding section 11(2) of the amended *State Superannuation Act 2000* which allows the Board to employ staff outside public service terms and conditions as determined by the Board —
 - (a) how many GESB staff are employed on other terms and conditions;
 - (b) what guidance is provided to the Board as to how to use this provision;
 - (c) how is the Minister ensuring transparency of the process; and
 - (d) what mechanisms are in place to ensure there is no repetition of the extraordinarily high past salaries at GESB?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) Ms Dolin received a termination payment of \$519 385.11 which represents 12 months' salary. In addition to this Ms Dolin was paid out statutory entitlements such as unpaid annual and long service leave.
- (2) The payment was calculated in accordance with the contract of employment and the requirements of section 101 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994.
- (3) GESB has had two acting CEOs since Ms Dolin's departure.
Mr Fabian Ross acted from 11 June 2011 until 9 September 2011 and Mr Larry Rudman acted from 10 September 2011 until 31 January 2012. Both received remuneration of \$341 869.78 per annum while acting as CEO.
- (4) The substantive appointment of a CEO was made on 30 January 2012. Remuneration applicable to the role is \$365 313.50 per annum and is determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.
- (5) (a)–(c)

Name	Title	Termination Payment ^(a)
Ms Michelle Ahearn	General Manager,	\$220 713.48

	Risk & Governance	
Ms Collene Hansen	General Manager, Strategy & Corporate Affairs	\$116 611.32 ^(b)
Ms Sharon Hicks	Chief Investment Officer	\$168 374.33
Mr Fabian Ross	General Manager, Wealth Management	\$139 895.29
Mr Lance Brockway	General Manager, Services and Technology	Nil

Note:

(a) Termination payments do not include any relevant payment for accrued leave entitlements.

(b) Previous Legislative Assembly Question on Notice 6657 indicated Ms Collene Hansen's voluntary redundancy payment was \$108 236. The difference of \$8 375.32 relates to an amount for pro rata Long Service Leave for Ms Hansen. This figure was omitted from the first Parliamentary Question by GESB as they understood at the time that payments of this nature were not included in the severance amount.

In addition to the above, an amount of \$218 275.20 was paid to Mr Damien Stewart who was acting as an Executive Officer in the role of Acting General Manager, Government Relations and Compliance.

- (6) (a)–(c) Not applicable.
- (7) The termination payments made to Ms Ahearn and Ms Hansen were charged to the Government Reform Budget. The termination payments made to Ms Hicks and Mr Ross were charged to GESB's administration budget.
- (8) Information that discloses or has the potential to disclose an individual's benefit with GESB will not be provided. It should be noted that one individual's entitlement in any of GESB's schemes will not have a material impact on State liability.
- (9) (a) 158.
- (b) The Board take internal, independent external advice and consult with the Public Sector Commission (PSC).
- (c) Remuneration for the CEO is now set by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal. Consultation occurs on all other remuneration arrangements between GESB and the PSC in accordance with the amended requirements of Section 11 of the State Superannuation Act 2000.
- (d) See part (9)(c).