

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

7th Assembly

19/07/1997

130. Supplementary Question to Written Question 82 - Private Legal Costs

Mr. BELL to MINISTER for ATTORNEY-GENERAL

QUESTION

1. In respect of \$1,205,501.86 paid from the Legal Services vote, the information which was provided in the Attorney-General's response to Written Question 82:
 - (a) what were the matters; and
 - (b) who were the private legal practitioners.
2. In respect of the amount referred to in question 1, how much was spent on:
 - (a) local practitioners; and
 - (b) interstate practitioners.
3. Of the amount referred to in question 1, how much was on:
 - (a) local counsel fees; and
 - (b) interstate counsel fees.
4. What are the details of the tendering process preceding a decision to brief a specific private practitioners.
5. Will the Attorney-General table the agreements made pursuant to which \$1,205,501.86 was paid from the Legal Services vote.
6. Does a *pro forma* agreement exist for the payments referred to in question 5.
7. Is a specific agreement concluded in:
 - (a) some cases; or
 - (b) all cases.
8. If the answer to question 7(a) is yes, on what basis is a specific agreement reached.
9. What policy is applied in making a decision whether to brief a matter to private practitioners or whether to use legal services provided by officers of the Attorney-General's Department.
10. On what basis are matters referred to interstate legal practitioners.

11. Should a legal services agreement be made with a local private practitioner, what terms are included in such agreements in respect of seeking advice from interstate practitioners.

ANSWER

Answered on