

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13th and 16th February, 2007

Question: HS23

Department: Department of Human Services

Outcome 1, Output 1

Topic: Job Capacity Assessment

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SENATOR WONG asked on 16/02/2007:

Senator WONG—Was there a sign advising people where the disability entrance was, prior to this issue being raised in the media?

Ms Frame—I would have to check, but I can certainly be very direct that there was not a sign that met our requirements. I think there was a sign around the back, but it was not a clear sign around the front that met our specifications.

ANSWER:

The assessment of Mathew Pearce was conducted under the former assessment processes that preceded Job Capacity Assessments. The Department of Human Services was not involved in the administration of that former process.

The assessment site was subsequently used for Job Capacity Assessments by the organisation concerned.

When the Mathew Pearce case was raised in the media, there was no sign on the front main entrance advising clients that an accessible entrance was at the rear of the building. This situation did not meet DHS' accessibility requirements, and was rectified on the day of the reporting.

To prepare this answer it has taken approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes at an estimated cost of \$125.