




Speech By
Hon. Fiona Simpson

MEMBER FOR MAROOCHYDORE

Record of Proceedings, 21 November 2013

DRISCOLL, MR SN

Appearance at Bar of House Pursuant to Order

 **Madam SPEAKER:** Honourable members, in accordance with the resolution agreed to by the House on 19 November 2013, I now propose to call Mr Scott Driscoll to appear in person at the bar of the House to address the House in relation to the specific charges of contempt set out in the order dated 19 November 2013.

I understand that Mr Driscoll has elected, in accordance with standing order 274(3), to be heard in his defence by his solicitor, Mr Peter Russo. The Sergeant-at-Arms bearing the mace will escort Mr Driscoll and Mr Russo to the bar of the House. In accordance with my memo circulated to all members earlier today, no member other than the Speaker may speak during the attendance of Mr Driscoll and the address on his behalf by Mr Russo.

I remind honourable members that the doors at the back of the chamber near the bar will remain open while Mr Russo is addressing the House from the bar. However, no person other than Mr Russo, Mr Driscoll and the Sergeant-at-Arms and security and chamber staff will be permitted in that immediate vicinity. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort Mr Driscoll and his solicitor to the bar of the House.

Mr Scott Nicolaus Driscoll and Mr Peter Russo were announced at the bar of the House by the Sergeant-at-Arms bearing the mace.

Madam SPEAKER: Mr Scott Driscoll, the Legislative Assembly has ordered you to appear in person at the bar of the House to address the House in relation to the specific charges of contempt set out in report No. 139 of the Ethics Committee and order dated 19 November 2001. I understand that you seek to be represented by your solicitor, Mr Peter Russo. Mr Russo, do you appear here on behalf of your client Mr Driscoll?

Mr RUSSO: Yes, Madam Speaker, in accordance with the standing orders, Mr Driscoll has asked me to address the House on his behalf.

Madam SPEAKER: The order of 19 November 2013 sets out precisely the 49 charges of contempt made against Mr Driscoll. The charges are that Mr Scott Driscoll failed to register a total of 14 different interests in the Register of Members' Interests and Register of Related Persons' Interests on a total of 48 occasions in accordance with schedule 2 of the standing rules and orders of the Legislative Assembly and Mr Scott Driscoll deliberately misled the Legislative Assembly in his personal explanation on 19 March 2013. Mr Russo, does your client agree to waive my reading of each of the charges.

Mr RUSSO: Yes, Madam Speaker, Mr Driscoll waives his right to have the charges read.

Madam SPEAKER: Mr Russo, you are required in the address on behalf of your client to observe strict and direct relevance to the contempt charges and the recommended penalty. If your

address becomes irrelevant, I will be compelled to take appropriate action. Your appearance before the bar of the House does not carry with it a right to ask any question. There is no right for you to table documents without the leave of the House, and you should not assume such leave will be granted.

You must direct your address to the House only through me as the Speaker. The House has resolved that the time for your address shall not exceed 30 minutes. Mr Russo, you may now proceed with your address.