

**Question on Notice  
No. 354  
Asked on 8 March 2007**

MR GLEN ELMES MP asked the Minister for Child Safety (MS BOYLE)-

**QUESTION:**

What is the breakdown of hospitality and entertainment received for chief executive officers and senior executive service officers for her department/s in 2005-06 and 2006-07 (year to date), detailing (a) names of the officers receiving the hospitality and entertainment, (b) type of the hospitality and entertainment received for each officer, (c) provider of the hospitality and entertainment for each officer, (d) total value of the hospitality or entertainment including travel and accommodation if relevant, (e) purpose of the hospitality or entertainment and (f) benefit to the Queensland taxpayer?

**ANSWER:**

In August 2003, a new Gifts and Benefits Policy covering all state public servants was introduced. The release of this policy demonstrates this government's commitment to transparency and accountability and expectations of a high standard of ethical behaviour by public service employees

At the same time, the Premier took the opportunity to set up a similar policy for Ministers and Ministerial staff.

The policy for state public servants covers gifts and benefits, including hospitality, to be given or received by public service employees - regardless of their value. It reinforces that it is not appropriate for public service employees to be offered or to give gifts and benefits that may be likely to influence them in the performance of their official duties. The policy makes it clear to public servants how to make decisions about accepting offers.

At the Premier's office's request, the Office of the Public Service commissioner has checked that this policy has been fully implemented. The advice, following this check, is that all government departments have fully implemented the policy and maintain a gifts and benefits register as well as regularly reviewing practices to ensure compliance with this policy. Staff training and awareness programs have also been conducted so that employees understand their obligations and responsibilities in the offers of gift or benefits while performing their official duties.

I am advised that for the reporting periods of 2005-06 and 2006-07 (year to date) there have been no instances of the receipt of hospitality and entertainment by the chief executive officer or senior executive service officers of the Department of Child Safety.