

Question on Notice

No. 500

Asked on 15 March 2007

Mr Copeland asked the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) —

QUESTION:

With reference to any reserve, contingency or emergency funding, or funding used for one-off grants, expended by his department/s at the discretion of the minister or chief executive officer-

- (1) Will he provide for 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, details of all items of expenditure from such fund/s and or one-off grants including (a) reason for expenditure, (b) total amount, (c) the date each item of expenditure was approved and (d) the person/s responsible for approval of expenditure?
- (2) What is the uncommitted balance of these funds at present?
- (3) Why are the reserve or contingency funding or one-off grants used rather than approved grant funds?

ANSWER:

- (1&3) The Minister does not have any reserve, contingency or emergency funding or funding for one-off grants.

The Chief Executive has an Emerging Priorities Fund for the purpose of providing funding in the event of an unforeseen situation arising that is not planned to be on-going and is unknown at the time of the development of the departmental Budget. The fund is primarily used to control one-off expenditure to ensure that such items do not become entrenched in on-going management operational budgets.

The attached table (Attachment A) lists expenditure from the Emerging Priorities Fund in the 2005–06 and 2006–07 financial years.

- (2) The uncommitted balance in the Emerging Priorities Fund as at 28 February 2007 is \$909 840.