

Question on Notice

No. 577

Asked on Wednesday, 24 March 2010

Mr SORENSEN asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations (Mr Dick)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the appointment of Mr Peter Carne as the Chief Executive Officer of the Public Trustee—

- (1) Was Mr Carne shortlisted by the selection panel on both occasions after the position was advertised and, if not, why not?
- (2) Was Mr Carne the applicant recommended for appointment on both occasions after the position was advertised and, if not, why not?
- (3) Who were the members of the selection panel, or persons doing the shortlisting and recommending for appointment on both occasions the position was advertised (listed separately)?

ANSWER:

The Public Trust Office (PTO) is an organisation that employs more than 500 staff located in 15 regional offices across Queensland. The invaluable services of the PTO have been delivered to Queenslanders for nearly one hundred years. Annually, these services include the administration of more than 2500 deceased estates, acting as Trustee to more than 800 testamentary trusts and 4400 trusts for minors, preparing more than 21,000 wills free of charge and acting as administrator for adults with an incapacity pursuant to the orders of QCAT, typically the *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000*.

In addition to assisting as a community service obligation some of the most vulnerable members of the community in Queensland, the Public Trustee also acts as trustee and is committed to the success of a number of significant philanthropic trusts.

Many qualified people have held the position of Public Trustee including Mr Kevin Martin, the current Chief of Staff to the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Carne applied for the position of Public Trustee on only one occasion, and was short-listed and recommended for appointment following the recruitment process which commenced in 2008.

The selection committee for the Public Trustee recruitment process conducted in 2007 comprised Ms Julie Grantham, A/Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Mr Gerard Bradley, Under Treasurer and Mr David Douglas, Executive Director, Office of the Public Service Commissioner.

The selection committee for the Public Trustee recruitment process conducted in 2008 comprised Ms Julie Grantham, A/Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Mr Jim McGowan, Director-General, Department of Emergency Services and Mr Stephen Rochester, Chief Executive, Queensland Treasury Corporation.