Question on Notice

No. 1047

Asked on Thursday, 16 June 2011

MR FOLEY asked the Minister for Education and Industrial Relations (MR C R DICK)-

QUESTION:

How many private employers have been prosecuted for supplying false information to Queensland government departments (in particular WorkCover) in the last five years?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

In relation to your question, I am able to provide information in relation to WorkCover Queensland. Requests for information about other government departments should be referred to the relevant ministers.

I am advised that in the past five years, one employer has been prosecuted for the offence of supplying false information to WorkCover Queensland.

Deliberately supplying false information in relation to a WorkCover claim is a serious offence. However, often where incorrect information is provided, it can be established that there was some error or misunderstanding. There may be no actual intention to defraud.

Where an intention to defraud cannot be proven but incorrect information has been provided to WorkCover, other penalties may be imposed on employers.