

Question on Notice

No. 323

Asked on 30 March 2022

MR M BERKMAN ASKED TREASURER AND MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT (HON C DICK)—

QUESTION:

In relation to expenditure lobbying and consulting services paid for by each Government Owned Corporation (GOC) of which the Treasurer is shareholding Minister, since the beginning of 2020—

Will the Treasurer advise (a) how many and which GOCs have paid Anacta or any other registered lobbyist organisation for their services, whether lobbying or other services, (b) what is the total value of those payments, broken down by GOC and registered lobbyist organisation and (c) on how many occasions and when have each GOC paid for registered lobbyists to meet with the Treasurer or other shareholding Minister?

ANSWER:

I am advised that no government owned corporation (GOC) has used a registered lobbyist organisation for lobbyist services.

The Queensland Register of Lobbyists (the Register), maintained by the Queensland Integrity Commissioner, is a publicly available resource and lists all lobbyists, entities and clients. There are no GOCs listed as clients on the Register.

While I am advised that GOCs have not engaged with companies on the Register to provide lobbying services, it is possible that GOCs may employ a company or person for a different purpose at the same time as that company or person possesses a lobbyist registration. The fact that the company or person possesses a lobbyist registration is incidental to their engagement for other, non-lobbying purposes. For example, a company may be engaged for planning or expert advice.

In relation to (a), I am advised that four GOCs have engaged other companies that possess a lobbying registration. The four GOCs are CleanCo Queensland Limited (CleanCo), QIC Limited (QIC), Gladstone Ports Corporation and Stanwell Corporation. The companies that have been engaged include Rowland Pty Ltd, Nexus Public Affairs, GRACosway, SEC Newgate Pty Ltd and Anacta Strategies.

In relation to (b), I am advised that specific details of these agreements are considered commercial in confidence by GOCs. I am further advised that disclosure of this information may place GOCs at a commercial disadvantage compared to private competitors. Notably, QIC manages funds on behalf of private clients and engages external expert advisors for that purpose.

In relation to (c), I am advised that these organisations have not been paid to meet with shareholding Ministers as part of their engagements with the GOCs.

Shareholding Ministers are required to record their contact with lobbyists on the Register of Lobbyists maintained by the Queensland Integrity Commissioner at <https://www.integrity.qld.gov.au/>