

**8530 (2008) Question: Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Dec 2008): What are the dates and titles of all reports, briefings and submissions he has received from the Department of Internal Affairs since 19 November 2008?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: I receive a wide range of reports from agencies, including the Department of Internal Affairs, on a number of issues. To identify all the reports I have received since I was appointed Minister of Internal Affairs on 19 November 2007 would require a commitment of resources, which I am unwilling to make.

**8532 (2008) Question: Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Dec 2008): Which stakeholder groups has he met with since becoming Minister for Internal Affairs and on what date did he meet them?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: I am not prepared to release the contents of my diary.

**8533 (2008) Question: Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Dec 2008): Has he received any reports, briefings or submissions from any department, ministry or agency other than the Department of Internal Affairs since he became Minister, if so, what are the dates and titles of those reports?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: I refer the Member to my answer to Question No. 08530 (2008)

**8751 (2008): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (15 Dec 2008): What official engagements has the Minister had to date as Minister of Internal Affairs; for each, when did they occur, and what was the purpose?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: I have had no official engagements as Minister of Internal Affairs in the period to 12 December 2008.

**139 (2009): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Feb 2009): Further to his answer to question for written answer 08530 (2208) does the Department of Internal Affairs have a system for recording reports and submissions to the Minister; if not, why not?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: Yes.

**141 (2009): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Feb 2009): Further to his answer to question for written answer 08530 (2008) does the Minister have a system for tracking correspondence within his office; if not, why not?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: Yes.

**144 (2009): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Feb 2009): How many reports or submissions from his Department has the Minister received since taking office?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: I do not intend to request my Department to spend the amount of time that would be required to collate the information to answer this question.

**145 (2009): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Feb 2009): Further to his answer to question for written answer 08530 (2008) why would it take a commitment of resources to identify which reports he has received since becoming Minister?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: The answer is self-evident.

**146 (2009): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Feb 2009): Further to his answer to question for written answer 08530 (2008) how many agencies is the Minister responsible for and how many reports from each of those agencies has he received since becoming Minister?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: As Minister of Internal Affairs, I am responsible for the Department of Internal Affairs and three Crown entities. I am not prepared to commit the amount of resources required to provide the detailed information sought on the number of reports I have received from each of these agencies since I was appointed Minister.

**176 (2009): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (10 Feb 2009): Further to his answer to question for written answer 08532 (2008) why is he unwilling to confirm which stakeholder or lobby groups he has met with since becoming Minister?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: I am not prepared to release the contents of my diary.

**411 (2009): Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (19 Feb 2009): Further to his answer to written questions 08530(2008) and 00139(2009) why isn't he willing to provide a list of the reports and submissions he has received given he claims to have a system for recording this information within his office?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: To collate the information requested would involve a commitment of resources that I am unwilling to make.

**1041 (2009) Question: Chris Hipkins to the Minister of Internal Affairs (11 Mar 2009): How many briefings has the Minister received from the Department of Internal Affairs?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: To collate the information requested in written questions 1041 to 1057 would involve a commitment of resources that I am unwilling to make. This is also my reply to written questions 1042 to 1057.

**2957 (2009) Question: Has the Minister asked the department or ministry from which they receive advice to stop recording the dates and titles of briefings provided to them as Minister by that department or ministry?**

Hon Dr Richard Worth (Minister of Internal Affairs) replied: No.

**04393 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), does the Department of Internal Affairs keep a record of submissions made to Cabinet and Cabinet Committees?**

Answer Text: Yes.

**04398 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), how long does the Minister estimate it would take officials to answer question 02737 (2009)?**

Answer Text: I am not responsible for estimating the time taken by officials to draft replies to parliamentary questions.

**04401 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), why does he believe it would be more appropriate to use other avenues to request this information?**

Answer Text: Parliamentary questions are not the only avenues through which members of Parliament can obtain information.

**04402 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), what types of information does he believe it is appropriate for members of Parliament to request through written Parliamentary questions?**

Answer Text: Under Standing Orders a member may put questions to a Minister relating to:- public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected; or proceedings in the House or any matter of administration for which the Minister is responsible.

**04405 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), does he believe that answering written Parliamentary questions is an important responsibility for Ministers?**

Answer Text: Yes.

**04408 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), has he consulted with the Cabinet Office on whether they could provide him with a list of submissions that he has made to Cabinet and Cabinet Committees?**

Answer Text: No, there is no requirement to do so.

**04410 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), does he believe that his answer to that question is appropriate for a Minister of the Crown; if so, why?**

Answer Text: Yes.

**04411 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), has the read the relevant sections of the Ministerial Services publication Legislation and House Procedure Handbook; if so how does he reconcile his answer with the advice contained in that publication?**

Answer Text: I am aware of the requirements in Standing Orders for replying to Parliamentary questions. This is also my response to written question 4413.

**04413 Question: Further to his answer to question for written answer 02737 (2009), has the Minister read the sections of the Parliamentary Practice in New Zealand by Hon David McGee QC ONZM relating to the obligation of Ministers to answer written questions; if so how does he reconcile his answer with the advice contained in that publication?**

Answer Text: I refer the member to my reply to written question 4411.