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# Question Without Notice

## Legislative Council

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To the Honourable Leader of Government Business in the Legislative Council submitted by Ms Meg Webb MLC.

**Question:**

**Regarding the Premier's announcement in his State of the State Address of 3rd March this year of the intention to dismantle the Department of State Growth, and media reports the current Secretary may receive a payout of more than \$1 million, can the government please detail:**

- 1. Whether the current Secretary of State Growth is employed under the standard Head of Agency contract or does it contain differing arrangements, and if so please specify?**
- 2. Regarding the termination without cause provisions contained in the current Secretary of State Growth's Head of Agency contract:**
  - a) Whether the current Secretary of State Growth will receive a one-year payout consistent with standard Head of Agency contracts, or will he receive the balance of the contract paid out?**
  - b) Which current Heads of Agencies' contracts contain a one-year payout arrangement in the event of termination without cause?**
  - c) Which current Heads of Agencies' contracts contain arrangements where the balance of the contract is paid out in the event of termination without cause? and**
  - d) Upon what basis and advice has the government entered into any Head of Agency contractual arrangements which deviate from the standard one year payout provision in the event of termination without cause, and from whom was any advice received?**

**Answer:**

Q1.

- The Secretary of the Department of State Growth is employed under the standard Head of Agency Instrument of Appointment.

Q2.

- The Secretary of the Department of State Growth is currently on annual leave.
- As advised in question 1, the Secretary of the Department of State Growth is employed under the standard Head of Agency Instrument of Appointment.
- There are provisions for termination without cause in all Heads of Agency Instruments of Appointment.
  - Schedule 5 – Termination and Discipline – Clause 3 – ‘The appointment may be terminated by the Officer upon the giving of 4 weeks (or such lesser period as the Premier may allow) notice in writing to the Premier’.

- Also, in Schedule 5 - Termination and Discipline – Clause 2(b) ‘The Premier may terminate this appointment by the giving of notice in writing or payment in lieu of notice if:

The operational requirements of the Crown so require.’

- All Secretaries are employed under the standard Head of Agency Instrument, with the exception of the Secretary Department of Premier and Cabinet and Head of the State Service.
- Contractual arrangements are a matter for the Premier as the employer.
- Head of Agency remuneration and entitlements are published each financial year as part of departmental annual reports. These are available on agency websites.

Approved



Jeremy Rockliff MP

**Premier**

Date: Friday, 29 May 2026