

**Will Hodgman, MP**  
Leader of the State Opposition  
Monday June 23, 2008

***Bartlett insincere on merit based appointments***

Premier, David Bartlett, has been unable to explain how his so-called “merit-based-appointments” policy differs from that of his predecessor.

Quizzed for details about his reported plan to “end political appointments” and what new processes might be implemented as a result, Mr Bartlett could not provide them.

When pressed for information about how the policy would differ from any policy under the former Premier, Paul Lennon, Mr Bartlett also could not provide them.

Leader of the State Opposition, Will Hodgman, said this was a case of Bartlett insincerity, and spin taking precedence over substance.

“If Mr Bartlett has a new merit-based appointments policy for senior positions to the public service, why can’t he explain what new processes he has put in place, or what in fact has changed since he became Premier?” Mr Hodgman said.

“He could not even commit to advertising senior positions in the government.

“Mr Bartlett’s lack of sincerity on public service appointments was only reinforced when he couldn’t explain what Mr Lennon’s former chief of staff, Daniel Leesong, would be doing in his office as an “adviser” to earn the same \$180,000+salary package he was on as chief of staff.”

“Mr Bartlett raised false expectations in the Tasmanian community in relation to this issue. It seems he was more interested in a headline than anything else.”

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