

**PROCEDURE AND PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE**

*Third Report — Remote participation in Legislative Assembly proceedings — Tabling*

**MR S.J. PRICE (Forrestfield — Deputy Speaker)** [2.01 pm]: I present for tabling the third report of the Procedure and Privileges Committee titled *Remote participation in Legislative Assembly proceedings*.

[See paper [1014](#).]

**Mr S.J. PRICE:** As members would be aware, during the previous two parliamentary sitting weeks the chamber trialled remote participation from various locations within Parliament House and around the state of Western Australia. The remote participation trial commenced on Wednesday, 16 February, when the member for Nedlands presented her speech remotely from her office within Parliament House. On Thursday, 17 February, the Leader of the Opposition asked the first and last questions in question time from her office inside Parliament House. The member for Kingsley also asked a question remotely from her parliamentary office. In the second sitting week, the Legislative Assembly trialled the use of remote technology from locations outside of Parliament House. There were questions from the member for Kimberley from her electorate office in Broome and the member for Southern River from his private residence. The member for Collie–Preston delivered a 90-second statement remotely from her electorate office in Collie and the member for Cottesloe delivered a 90-second statement remotely using his smartphone whilst in his Parliament House office.

As stated in the report, there is a strong possibility that COVID-19 will remain a significant risk for the 2022 parliamentary sitting year and that absences due to members self-isolating or quarantining or while taking precautionary measures because of COVID-19 could adversely affect the running of the chamber. Accordingly, the Procedure and Privileges Committee is of the view that remote participation should be permitted for the duration of 2022 to respond to the challenges posed by the current pandemic, subject to the criteria and conditions discussed within the report.

Again, I would like to thank the parliamentary broadcasting team in conjunction with the IT department for their work in setting up those members and making the trial a success.

I commend the report to the house.