

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT — ADVERSE OPINION

31. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the Treasurer's response to question without notice 3 regarding the Auditor General's adverse opinion and findings set out in the *Financial audit results—state government 2022–23*.

- (1) Given the measures outlined by the Treasurer to address the Auditor General's findings and to lift financial management capability in the public sector, does the Premier admit that the machinery-of-government initiatives implemented by the Labor government have directly compromised financial management and accountability in the public sector?
- (2) Given that the adverse finding and concerns expressed by the Auditor General specifically relate to repeated failures by state government entities to address serious qualifications to their financial reports and controls, why has it taken until 2023–24 to address this issue?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the Leader of the House. The following response has been provided by Premier.

- (1) No.
- (2) The premise of the question is entirely incorrect. This government's longstanding investment in boosting capability in the public sector is having a differential impact. This is demonstrated by the fact that the number of financial and management weaknesses identified by the Auditor General in 2022–23, in the report referred to by the member, is lower than the number of weaknesses identified by the Auditor General during every single year of the previous Liberal–National government.