

DRAFT STATE BIOSECURITY STRATEGY

**443. Hon DARREN WEST to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:**

I refer to the current consultation, closing 15 May, on the draft state biosecurity strategy.

- (1) Is WA a signatory to the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity?
- (2) Are local governments considered by the WA government to be stakeholders in the state strategy?
- (3) What specific efforts have been made to engage local governments in shaping the strategy?
- (4) How many submissions have been received to date from individual local governments or collective bodies?
- (5) If there are few, will the government consider proactively seeking input from local governments before analysing submissions?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)–(2) Yes.
- (3) The Biosecurity Council of Western Australia invited local government, with other stakeholders, to contribute to a survey on biosecurity that informed the draft strategy.
- (4) No submissions from local government have been received to date. The Department of Agriculture and Food has received seven written submissions, including three from organisations, two of which are from natural resource management groups. Six individuals have also completed the online survey available.
- (5) The period for feedback has been extended by two months, to 15 May. Three media releases and social media have been pursued to promote interest and feedback. The department will consider whether additional input will be sought from stakeholders after the closing period. Input from local government will be welcomed in the interim.