

PUBLIC SECTOR COMMISSION — INDEPENDENT REVIEW

**373. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Public Sector Management:**

I refer to page 71 of 2018–19 budget paper No 2, which advises, in respect of the Public Sector Commission —

An independent review of the Commission's capabilities, functions, structure and performance is underway. The review commenced on 9 April and is due to be completed in July 2018.

- (1) How much will this independent review cost, and what is the breakdown of these costs?
- (2) What process was followed permitting the appointment of Ms Carmel McGregor, PSM, to complete the review?
- (3) What progress has been made in the recruitment of a new Public Sector Commissioner?
- (4) Will the Premier commit to undertaking all appropriate consultation prior to appointing the next Public Sector Commissioner?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The independent review of the Public Sector Commission is being supported by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. The review is currently underway and costs expected to be incurred relate to engagement of the reviewer, travel and accommodation. Staff of the secretariat are current public sector employees. The total cost of the reviewer, travel and accommodation is anticipated to be less than \$250 000.
- (2) A specialist is required to undertake the review of the Public Sector Commission. Ms Carmel McGregor, PSM, has considerable experience and was a former Deputy Australian Public Service Commissioner and member of the Prime Minister's advisory group on reform of Australian government administration. Ms McGregor is eminently qualified to undertake the role and was engaged by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.
- (3) The recruitment of the Public Sector Commissioner is currently underway. The position was advertised in *The Weekend West* and *The Weekend Australian* of Saturday, 21 April 2018. Applications closed on Monday, 14 May 2018.
- (4) Section 17(2) of the Public Sector Management Act 1994 requires that, before appointing a Public Sector Commissioner, the Minister for Public Sector Management shall consult the parliamentary leader of each party in Parliament prior to making a recommendation to the Governor as to the appointment of the commissioner. As the Minister for Public Sector Management, the Premier intends to comply with section 17(2) of the act.