

SCOTT DOUGLAS AUSTIC — COURT OF APPEAL

97. Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General:

I refer to prisoner Scott Douglas Austic, the murderer of Tracey Robyn Thorne, whose petition for a further referral to the Court of Appeal the now Attorney General, then shadow Attorney General, supported in 2012.

- (1) Has the Attorney General, since becoming a minister, received any representations or petition to refer Austic's case yet again to the Court of Appeal?
- (2) If yes to (1), what form has that approach taken and when was it made?
- (3) Does the latest approach materially differ from that already considered and previously rejected as a basis for referral; and, if so, how?
- (4) Has the Attorney General sought advice on the question of a referral; and, if so, from whom, and when was that advice sought and received?
- (5) Has any of that advice supported referring the case to the Court of Appeal; and, if so, whose advice?
- (6) Has the Attorney General made a decision about referring Austic's case; and, if not, why not, and when will a decision be made?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) A petition dated 19 February 2018 was received by the Attorney General's office on 21 February 2018.
- (3)–(6) No decision on this petition has been made. The nature of any advice sought by the Attorney General is subject to legal professional privilege.