

PUBLIC SECTOR — STAFF, WAGES AND CONSULTANTS

678. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Public Sector Management:

For each of the financial years 2017–18, 2018–19, 2019–20, 2020–21, 2021–22, I ask the following question.

- (1) What was the total full time equivalent number of Western Australian public servants?
- (2) What was the total Western Australian public sector wage bill, inclusive of part-time and full-time employees?
- (3) What has been the total cost of external consultants engaged by the McGowan government?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

(1)–(2) This information is tabled annually in the *State of the WA government sector workforce* report and *Annual report on state finances*. For the member's convenience, the most recent information was provided in Legislative Council tabled papers 893 and 758 respectively. Information for the 2021–22 financial year will be published in the coming months.

(3) As part of this government's ongoing commitment to accountability and transparency, and in accordance —
An opposition member interjected.

Hon SUE ELLERY: I do not know; did members of the opposition get speeding fines? I cannot remember! Did they?
Several members interjected.

Hon SUE ELLERY: They did not answer—transparency. The answer continues as follows.

- (3) As part of this government's ongoing commitment to accountability and transparency, and in accordance with Premier's Circular 2019/06, a six-monthly *Report on consultants engaged by the government* is tabled in both houses of Parliament.