

FOREST PRODUCTS COMMISSION — SOFTWOOD PLANTATION ESTATE

871. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the Minister for Forestry:

I refer to the government's commitment to invest \$350 million over 10 years to grow the softwood plantation estate. As at 16 August 2023 —

- (1) how many properties or parcels of land has the Forest Products Commission purchased, and what is the size of each parcel of land purchased;
- (2) how many new plantation management or farm forestry agreements has the Forest Products Commission entered into;
- (3) how many seedlings have been planted on land not previously owned or managed by the Forest Products Commission for plantations or farm forestry; and
- (4) how much of the \$350 million has been expended?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. Following years of inaction and lack of investment under the previous Liberal–National government, the Cook Labor government is acting and investing in the future of the state's softwood estate. As at 16 August 2023 —

- (1) the Forest Products Commission has either acquired or is awaiting settlement on 4 263 hectares of land;
- (2) since January 2021, the FPC has established 10 profit a prendre, or sharefarming agreements;
- (3) 530 000 additional seedlings were planted in 2022 and a further 1.3 million additional seedlings have been established thus far in 2023; and
- (4) \$38 million of the \$350 million has been drawn down. This does not include costs associated with the 2023 plantation establishment or land that is awaiting settlement.