

SAFE TRANSITION INDUSTRY SUPPORT PACKAGE

48. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's announcement of 10 February 2022 of a \$77 million safe transition industry support package.

- (1) Given the critical economic pressures impacting Western Australian businesses, what is the anticipated process time from lodgement of application for support package to payment of grants to business recipients?
- (2) Are the grants a tax-free payment to business?
- (3) What was the criteria used to deem a business eligible for the support package, and will the Premier table that criteria; and, if not, why not?
- (4) What was the criteria used to deem a business ineligible for the support package, and will the Premier table the criteria; and, if not, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1) Eligible businesses will have their applications processed and payments made as soon as possible. One of the rationales behind extending or modifying a number of previous business support programs is to significantly reduce processing time for previous recipients. This will allow new applicants to be assessed in a more timely manner.
- (2) The tax-free status of grants is a decision of the commonwealth government. As with our previous business assistance packages, the state government will seek tax-free status for these payments from the commonwealth.
- (3)–(4) The eligibility criteria for the various components of the package are publicly available on the WA website, but I will ensure that the member gets a hard copy.