

REGISTRY OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES — ADOPTION ACT

284. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the minister representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the response on 17 March 2022 to my question without notice 191 in which the house was informed that the Department of Communities would be working with the Department of Justice on recommendation 13 of the Senate Community Affairs References Committee regarding former forced adoption policies and practices.

- (1) Noting that more than a decade has passed since the recommendation was made, have both departments now commenced working together on this issue?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) What is the date of the most recent briefing note or similar document that the department has provided to the minister on this matter?
- (4) Further to (3), will the minister table that document?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Minister for Child Protection.

- (1)–(4) The Department of Communities advises that work has commenced. Further, as the minister has reiterated, the McGowan government supports a parliamentary inquiry into historic forced adoption practices. The WA government is reviewing the commonwealth Senate and Victorian parliamentary inquiries and is considering how their recommendations may apply to the WA community. The trauma and difficulty that these terrible past practices have caused the mothers of children who were forcibly adopted—the children who are now adults—and their families is unimaginable. It is important that we work with them and do all we can to ensure that this does not happen again.