Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Thursday, 14 March 2024] p870d-870d

Hon Dr Brian Walker; Hon Matthew Swinbourn

NATIONAL WASTEWATER DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

170. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Water:

I refer to the latest Australian Crime Intelligence Commission report on the national wastewater drug monitoring program, released yesterday, which showed that Western Australia's meth consumption had surged by 40 per cent in the past year, with the highest averages being noted in regional communities.

- (1) Given that the report is based on data from 60 wastewater treatment plants, including seven in WA, but only covers 57 per cent of Australia's population, can the minister inform the house of the locations of the seven treatment plants in WA and the percentage of the WA population covered by those plants?
- (2) Can the minister provide a list of any sizeable areas within the state that are not currently covered by this testing?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The minister has provided me with the following answer.

(1)–(2) The national wastewater drug monitoring program is an Australian federal government program. As such, any questions relating to this program need to be directed to the Australian federal government.