

PROSTITUTION — WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHMENT

2388. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General

- (1) Has the Minister established a working group or committee on sex work/prostitution?
- (2) If yes to (1) —
 - (a) when was this group established;
 - (b) who is on the group;
 - (c) what are their experiences, knowledge or qualifications in the area of sex work;
 - (d) how often does this group meet;
 - (e) what are the terms of reference of this group;
 - (f) when is the group expected to report;
 - (g) who does the group report to;
 - (h) who has the group met with;
 - (i) has the group consulted Magenta and/or SWOPWA; and
 - (j) if the group has not consulted Magenta and/or SWOPWA, why not?
- (3) Has legislation been drafted?
- (4) If no to (9), when is it expected legislation will be drafted?
- (5) When is it expected that legislation will be introduced into the Parliament?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

- (1) No. However, the Attorney General has established a Senior Officers Group.
- (2)
 - (a) February 2009.
 - (b) Representatives from the Department of the Attorney General, WA Police, Department of Health, Department of Planning, Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor, Department of Local Government and the Western Australian Local Government Association.
 - (c) Each of these agencies has a role in regulating the sex industry and/or ensuring the safety of sex workers and their clients.
 - (d) Meetings of the working group as a whole occurred every 1 — 3 months, smaller sub-group meetings occurred on an as needed basis.
 - (d) The terms of reference provide detailed instructions on the content of the legislation. As the draft legislation is still to be considered by Cabinet the terms of reference are not provided in this response.
 - (f) Mid 2010.
 - (g) The Attorney General.
 - (h) The Worksafe Division of the Department of Commerce; and in 2009 members of the working group met with visiting academics who were investigating models of regulating the sex industry, these were Professor Basil Donovan (School of Public Health, University of Sydney), Dr Christine Harcourt (Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney Hospital) and Dr Sandra Egger (School of Law, University of New South Wales).
 - (i) No.
 - (j) The community and external stakeholders will have the opportunity to comment after the Government has considered the proposed model.
- (3) No.
- (4) By the end of 2010.
- (5) In the first half of 2011.