

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — ELECTRICITY SUBINDEX

1032. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the minister representing the Treasurer:

I refer to today's consumer price index release from the Australian Bureau of Statistics that shows that Perth's CPI has increased six per cent year on year to the September quarter.

- (1) What impact has the household electricity credit had on the electricity subindex for Perth's CPI figures?
- (2) If the electricity subindex was excluded from the September quarters figures, as per the CPI figure contained in the *Annual report on state finances*, what would the revised CPI rate for Perth be?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the Leader of the Opposition for some notice of the question. The following answer is provided on behalf of the Treasurer.

- (1) Electricity prices fell by 84.3 per cent in Perth for the September 2022 quarter, due to the \$400 household electricity credit provided by the McGowan government. I note that the Leader of the Liberal Party labelled the household electricity credit a "bribe" and a "sugar hit".
- (2) In the September 2022 quarter, Perth's consumer price index decreased by 0.5 per cent—the only capital city in the country to record a decline. If electricity were excluded, Perth's CPI would be 1.7 per cent—still the lowest of all capital cities and below the national average.