

GOLD CORPORATION — BOARD MINUTES

287. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the minister's answer to question without notice 234 asked on 16 March 2023 on the board of the Gold Corporation, which oversees the Perth Mint, and to sections 6(9) and 6(10) of the Gold Corporation Act 1987, which state —

- (9) For the purposes specified in subsection (7) the Minister may —
 - (a) request Gold Corporation to furnish information to the Minister;
 - (b) request the Board to ensure that the Minister is given access to information; and
 - (c) make use of the staff of Gold Corporation or of any subsidiary to obtain information and to furnish it to the Minister.
- (10) Gold Corporation shall comply with a request under subsection (9) and make staff and facilities available to the Minister for the purposes of paragraph (c) of that subsection.

I ask —

- (1) Has the minister used sections 6(9) and (10) as stated to request the board minutes of Gold Corporation since being made the responsible minister in 2021?
- (2) If no to (1), given that the scandal surrounding the Perth Mint became public on 30 August last year with the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre's announcement of its investigation, why has the minister not requested access to the minutes?
- (3) Has the minister used these sections of the establishing act to access any other information in relation to the Perth Mint since 2021?
- (4) If yes to (3), what information was sought and on what dates?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

- (1) No.
- (2) Board minutes are confidential except when required by law. For example, board minutes are available to the Auditor General as and if required. Minutes of government trading enterprises are not shared with the minister because this would undermine the governance oversight role of each board.
- (3) No.
- (4) Refer to the answer to (3).