

LIVE SHEEP EXPORT — FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POLICY

**473. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:**

I refer to the proposed phase-out of live sheep exports by the commonwealth government.

- (1) Does the minister acknowledge that the effects of the commonwealth government's decision are already being felt by the agricultural sector and associated businesses well ahead of any ban or implementation of transitional arrangements?
- (2) If so, what practical action has the McGowan government taken to provide assistance to farmers, businesses and communities?
- (3) What actions have been taken by the McGowan government to ensure that there are no adverse animal welfare outcomes in the short to medium term?

**Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(3) There are several factors that influence the sheepmeat industry in Western Australia. The actual numbers of live sheep exported from WA have increased and abattoir numbers have stayed constant, while the numbers of sheep transferred interstate have declined in 2023. There are no reports of on-farm animal welfare incidents at the present time.