

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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## QUESTIONS

**No. 100**

**Tuesday, 10 August 2010**

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Questions appear according to the date on which notice was delivered.  
When a question has been answered it is removed from the postponed list.

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## POSTPONED QUESTIONS

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***Notice Given***                      ***Wednesday, 19 May 2010***

2423. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment (*SO 138(d) response - June 29 2010*)

2424. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment (*SO 138(d) response - June 29 2010*)

***Notice Given***                      ***Tuesday, 15 June 2010***

2478. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food

***Notice Given***                      ***Thursday, 17 June 2010***

2507. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Education

***Notice Given***                      ***Wednesday, 23 June 2010***

2519. Hon Adele Farina to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism

***Notice Given***                      ***Thursday, 24 June 2010***

2520. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism

2522. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism

***Notice Given***                      ***Tuesday, 29 June 2010***

2524. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Environment

2527. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food

cqb381.100.10Aug2010 (A241670)

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**Postponed Questions**

- 2529. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Disability Services
- 2530. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Emergency Services
- 2531. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 2532. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2533. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2534. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2535. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2536. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2537. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2558. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce

***Notice Given                      Wednesday, 30 June 2010***

- 2560. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Housing
- 2561. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Housing
- 2562. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2563. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2564. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2565. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2566. Hon Ken Travers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Treasurer
- 2567. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2568. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Science and Innovation
- 2569. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2570. Hon Jon Ford to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 2571. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2572. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2573. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2574. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2575. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2576. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2577. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2578. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2579. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism

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- 2580. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2581. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2582. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
- 2583. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development
- 2584. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development
- 2585. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development
- 2586. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2587. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment
- 2589. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 2590. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 2593. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 2596. Hon Sue Ellery to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 2597. Hon Sue Ellery to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 2598. Hon Sue Ellery to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 2599. Hon Sue Ellery to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 2600. Hon Sue Ellery to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 2601. Hon Sue Ellery to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 2602. Hon Sue Ellery to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development

***Notice Given                      Thursday, 1 July 2010***

- 2608. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
- 2610. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2611. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2612. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2613. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2615. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2616. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2617. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment

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- 2618. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2619. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2620. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2621. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2622. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2623. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2624. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2625. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2626. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2627. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2628. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2629. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2630. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2631. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Commerce
- 2632. Hon Linda Savage to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Education
- 2633. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Transport
- 2634. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Environment
- 2635. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
- 2641. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
- 2643. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection

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2644. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Emergency Services

- (1) In relation to the 600 plus parks and reserves, including ones with MOU's, in the metropolitan area, can the Minister please advise, -
  - (a) how many have fuel loads over five tonnes to the hectare;
  - (b) how many have fuel loads over 10 tonnes to the hectare; and
  - (c) what plans have FESA drawn up, to lower fuel loads in all these parks and reserves?
- (2) In FESA's last bush fire audit conducted last season, can the Minister advise on how many occasions did the Western Australian Police, on instruction from the FESA Incident Controller, stop volunteer brigade members and units proceeding to fires and instruct them to take a different route?

2645. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Environment

I refer to the Regulation Review, Clearing of Native Vegetation, Report to the Minister for the Environment by the Expert Committee, April 2009, and I ask -

- (1) Which recommendations from the report have been implemented by the Government?
- (2) I refer to page 21 of the report, point 3.6, 'Database for Improved Monitoring and Auditing of Land Clearing, Recommendation 11, The Committee recommends that resources be provided to improve the quality and public accessibility of data on native vegetation, of both its extent and significance, so as to allow for better decision making in DEC and to better inform land owners and the broader community', and ask, has this been implemented as a priority?
- (3) If all the recommendations have not been implemented, can the Minister explain why?
- (4) What are the mechanisms for safe guarding against contractors damaging or clearing on protected sites?
- (5) What steps are currently being taken by the Minister and/or Department of Environment and Conservation to implement the recommendations?

2646. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts

With regard to the Department of Culture and the Arts (the Department), -

- (1) How many people are employed in administrative roles?
- (2) What are the total salary costs of these employees?
- (3) Does the Department have any input into the budget submissions for, -

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- (a) the Art Gallery;
  - (b) the Museum; and
  - (c) the State Library?
- (4) Does the Department have any input into staff recruitment, for example, the hiring and firing of employees for, -
- (a) the Art Gallery;
  - (b) the Museum; and
  - (c) the State Library?

2647. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Emergency Services

Can the Minister advise if the insignia worn by some members of FESA, will also be worn by firefighters, including volunteers in the Bush Fire Brigades?

2648. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Environment

Whilst the Department is to be congratulated on reaching its 200 000 hectare prescribed burning target last year, what plans have been made to address the backlog of nearly 250 000 hectare that still exists?

2649. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

I refer to the 2009 investigation by the Office of the Public Sector Standards Commissioner into allegations made by the former Department of Agriculture technician Patrick Fels, and I ask -

- (1) Has all information arising out of that investigation been made available to the following, for the purposes of their separate investigations into allegations by Mr Fels, -
  - (a) Gold Security Group International Pty Ltd;
  - (b) Ombudsman; and
  - (c) Corruption and Crime Commission?
- (2) If yes to (1)(a), (b) or (c), when was the information provided?
- (3) If no to (1)(a), (b) or (c), why not?

2650. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food

Further to the answers given to question on notice No. 2214, dated 25 May 2010, I ask -

- (1) Regarding the answers given to question (11), on or about 7 February 2008, did the Departments then Acting Director General Rob Delane advise Patrick Fels, that there would be an investigation into an allegation by Mr Fels, that the Department should have received revenue from some brassica intellectual property, used by a commercial breeding program?
- (2) If yes to (1), -

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- (a) when did that investigation commence;
  - (b) what were the terms of reference of that investigation;
  - (c) who carried out that investigation;
  - (d) how was that investigator selected; and
  - (e) has that investigation been completed?
- (3) If no to (1)(e), when will that investigation be completed?
- (4) If yes to (1)(e), -
- (a) what was the outcome?
  - (b) will the Minister table a report of the investigation and its findings?
- (5) Has all information arising from that investigation been made available to the following, for the purposes of their separate investigations into allegations by Mr Fels, -
- (a) Gold Security Group International fly Ltd;
  - (b) Ombudsman; and
  - (c) Corruption and Crime Commission?
- (6) If yes to (5)(a), (b), (c) or (d), when was the information provided?
- (7) If no to (5)(a), (b), (c) or (d), why not?
- (8) Did the investigation by Gold Security Group International Pty Ltd have available to it all information arising out of the investigation by the Office of the Public Sector Standards Commissioner, including the report that was prepared by the independent investigator hired to carry out that investigation?
- (9) If yes to (8), when was that information provided?
- (10) If no to (8), why not?
- (11) Further to the answer given to (12)(f), of question on notice No. 2214, dated 25 May 2010, has the investigation by Gold Security Group International Pty Ltd now been completed?
- (12) If no to (11), when will it be completed?
- (13) If yes to (11), has all information arising from that investigation been made available to the following, for the purposes of their separate investigations into allegations by Mr Fels, -
- (a) Ombudsman; and
  - (b) Corruption and Crime Commission?
- (14) If no to (13)(a) or (b), why not?
- (15) Further to the answer given to (17)(a)-(e) of question on notice No. 2214, dated 25 May 2010, to the knowledge of the Department has the government unintentionally relinquished canola, wheat, barley or other seed crop intellectual property rights to, -

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- (a) Monsanto;
  - (b) Nufarm;
  - (c) Intergrain;
  - (d) Cropcare; and
  - (e) any other business?
- (16) If yes to any of (15)(a), (b), (c), (d) or (e), will the Minister please provide full details?
- (17) Further to the answer given to (18)(e) of my Questions On Notice No. 2214 dated 25 May 2010, has the Minister provided the allegations and supporting material of Mr Fels to the Corruption and Crime Commission in their entirety and without amendment?
- (18) If no to (17), -
- (a) will the Minister please provide full details of all amendments and omissions; and
  - (b) what is the reason for the amendments and omissions?

2651. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water

I refer to water extraction from the Gngangara Mound, and ask -

- (1) What is the current status of the Gngangara Mound groundwater bore monitoring, metering and compliance project?
- (2) How much has the Gngangara Mound groundwater bore monitoring project cost (please provide detailed costs including staffing, communications, hardware, water user support, analysis and compliance activity)?
- (3) How many metres have been installed for each of the four years of the project?
- (4) What volumes of water were metered users licensed to extract?
- (5) How many of those licensed and metered users have extracted less water than their water allocation license?
- (6) How many of those licensed and metered users extracted a volume of water equal to their allocation license?
- (7) How many of those licensed and metered users extracted a volume of water equal to their allocation license?
- (8) For the categories of user referred to in (5), (6) and (7), please provide total volumes of water extracted during, -
  - (a) 2008 - 09;
  - (b) 2009 - 10; and
  - (c) July 2010 to present date?
- (9) What was the total volume of water extracted by licensed and metered consumptive users above their allocation license across the period the project has been in operation (since 2006)?



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- (10) If the users referred to in (9), were required to pay for the water they extracted above their license allocation, at the rate paid by average public customers of drinking water in the Perth metropolitan area, how much would this amount be?
- (11) Has the Department of Water issued any warnings, fines or prosecutions stemming from the metering project findings?
- (12) If yes to (11), -
  - (a) How many warnings, fines and prosecutions have been issued for the years, -
    - (i) 2008 - 09;
    - (ii) 2009 - 10; and
    - (iii) July 2010 - current date, -
  - (b) What volumes of water were identified for each breach; and
  - (c) What value of fines, costs and prosecutions have been issued and recovered from users who have used more water than their water allocation license?
- (13) If no to (11), -
  - (a) why not; and
  - (b) when will the project change focus towards compliance in the way water is used from the Gnangara Mound?

2652. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water

I refer to the pressure reduction trials in Rossmoyne, Shelley and Waterman that were able to achieve significant savings of water akin to additional supply costed at between 12 cents and 74 cents a kilolitre, and I ask -

- (1) Given the significant water savings that can be gained cheaply through a roll-out of network optimisation – pressure reduction trials, what progressive roll-out has the Water Corporation devised for this program?
- (2) In line with the recommendations from the Water Corporation network optimisation final report released August 2009, when will the State of Western Australia see the rapid deployment of pressure regulation in suitable areas in the water reticulation network?

2653. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General

I refer to the review of the *Restraining Orders Act 1997*, and ask -

- (1) Please provide detail on the current status of the review?
- (2) Who has been consulted during the review?
- (3) Will any further consultations be conducted before amendments to the Act are finalised?
- (4) If yes to (3), who will be consulted?
- (5) Please detail any amendments proposed in the review which the Government supports?

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- (6) Is the Government initiating other changes to the Act which were not recommended in the review?
- (7) If yes to (6), please outline these proposals?
- (8) Will the amendments include clauses to support the state-roll out of the Safe at Home program, providing women and children the option of remaining in their own homes with the perpetrator being removed and prohibited from returning to the residence?
- (9) If yes to (8), please provide details?
- (10) Is there a timeframe for passage of the amendments?
- (11) If the Government has not yet finalised its intentions regarding amendments to the Act, when will these details be finalised and made public?

2654. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

I refer to the answers to question on notice No's 2147 and 2149, regarding Indigenous Heritage Sites 20060 and 24125, and ask -

- (1) Mattner, AIC and the answer to question No. 2149 all offer different GPS points for Site 24125, and in one instance co-locate it with Site 20060. Will the Minister please clarify the discrepancies amongst the recorded locations of Site 24125?
- (2) Will the Minister direct the Department to investigate these different site locations?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) Regarding site 20060, can the Minister tell us the current location of the quartz artefacts?
- (5) If no to (4), will the Minister direct the Department to investigate the location of the quartz artefacts?

2655. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water

I refer to the groundwater replenishment trials at Beenyup, and ask -

- (1) Are levels of radioactivity in wastewater monitored for the Beenyup Groundwater Replenishment treated wastewater trial?
- (2) If yes to (1), -
  - (a) what levels of alpha and beta radioactivity will trigger greater levels of monitoring for specific radioactive isotopes;
  - (b) which isotopes will be measured; and
  - (c) what management measures are in place to monitor, mitigate and prevent radioactive material being reinjected into the Leederville aquifer?
- (3) If no to (1), why not?
- (4) What method for monitoring radioactivity has been developed?

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- (5) What are the current reporting levels for radioactivity required under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?

2656. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water

I refer to the groundwater replenishment trials at Beenyup, and ask -

- (1) Are levels of glyphosate in wastewater monitored for the Beenyup Managed Aquifer Recharge treated wastewater trial?
- (2) If yes to (1), what levels of glyphosate have been determined to trigger management responses for treated wastewater reinjection into the Leederville aquifer?
- (3) If no to (1), why not?
- (4) What method for monitoring glyphosate has been developed?
- (5) What are the current reporting levels for glyphosate required under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?
- (6) Are levels of N.N-diethyl-m-toluamide (DEET) in wastewater monitored for the Beenyup Managed Aquifer Recharge treated wastewater trial?
- (7) If yes to (6), what levels of DEET have been determined to trigger management responses for treated wastewater reinjection into the Leederville aquifer?
- (8) If no to (6), why not?
- (9) What method for monitoring DEET has been developed?
- (10) What are the current reporting levels for DEET required under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?
- (11) Are levels of Triclocarban in wastewater monitored for the Beenyup Managed Aquifer Recharge treated wastewater trial?
- (12) If yes to (11), what levels of Triclocarban have been determined to trigger management responses for treated wastewater reinjection into the Leederville aquifer?
- (13) If no to (11), why not?
- (14) What method for monitoring Triclocarban has been developed?
- (15) What are the current reporting levels for Triclocarban required under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?
- (16) Are levels of salicylic acid in wastewater monitored for the Beenyup Managed Aquifer Recharge treated wastewater trial?
- (17) If yes to (16), what levels of salicylic acid have been determined to trigger management responses for treated wastewater reinjection into the Leederville aquifer?
- (18) If no to (16), why not?
- (19) What method for monitoring salicylic acid has been developed?
- (20) What are the current reporting levels for salicylic acid required under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?

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- (21) How often will regular emerging chemical and environmental risk reviews be undertaken during the groundwater replenishment trial?
- (22) Will regular emerging chemical and environmental risk reviews be triggered by institutional approval for use of new chemicals, such as pesticides and pharmaceuticals; improved knowledge of hazards of known chemicals; and precautionary community concern for interaction between chemicals of concern?

2657. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water

I refer to the groundwater replenishment trials at Beenyup, and ask -

- (1) Are levels of carcinogenic NDMA N-Nitrosamines in wastewater monitored for the Beenyup Groundwater replenishment treated wastewater trial?
- (2) If yes to (1), -
  - (a) what levels of NDMA N-Nitrosamines will trigger greater levels of analysis and monitoring; and
  - (b) what management measures are in place to monitor, mitigate and prevent NDMA N-Nitrosamines in excess of Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, being reinjected into the Leederville aquifer?
- (3) What method for monitoring NDMA N-Nitrosamines has been developed?
- (4) What are the current reporting levels for NDMA N-Nitrosamines required under the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?
- (5) What concerns does the Minister hold for relaxing the allowable level of NDMA N-Nitrosamines in treated wastewater for groundwater replenishment from 10ng/litre to 100ng/litre as proposed by the draft revised Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?

2658. Hon Alison Xamon to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water

I refer to the information sessions conducted by Busselton Water regarding the proposed chlorination of the Busselton water supply, and ask -

- (1) Has Busselton Water consulted with customers regarding the proposed chlorination of water within its operational area?
- (2) If yes to (1), what have been the results from that consultation?
- (3) If no to (1), is it a condition of its operating license issued by the Economic Regulatory Authority that Busselton Water must consult and solicit customer opinion regarding the provision of water services?
- (4) If yes to (3), what have been the results from that consultation and solicitation of public opinion?
- (5) Has Busselton Water complied with the conditions of its operating license?
- (6) Is the Minister aware of significant public unrest, about the way Busselton Water has conducted consultation and solicitation of opinion from customers?

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- (7) What public health risk assessment has Busselton Water undertaken, in addition to the commissioned Hunter Water review?

2659. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development

I refer to my question No. 394 asked on Wednesday, 23 June 2010 to which you responded that if Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) felt they were hard done by then RTOs should get in touch with the department, and that the department had not heard from them, and I ask -

- (1) Will you confirm that the department has heard from RTO's who are not happy with the many delays in the call for applications for funding under the Productivity Places Program?
- (2) Will you confirm that the department is, on some days, receiving between 30 and 80 calls from RTOs who are anxiously waiting on funding?

2660. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism

I refer to the development of the 'Experience Extraordinary' campaign launched in February 2010, and I ask -

- (1) Were the 25 cabs being utilised by the campaign in the United Kingdom (UK) paid?
- (2) If yes to (1), how much?
- (3) Were the Ambassadors in the UK paid?
- (4) If yes to (3), how much?

2661. Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism

I refer to all travel taken by the Minister since September 2008, and I ask -

- (1) For each instance of travel taken by the Minister in an official capacity, related to her Ministerial duties, what was -
  - (a) the destination/s and dates of the travel;
  - (b) the purpose; and
  - (c) the period of time the Minister was outside of Western Australia?
- (2) For each instance of travel taken by the Minister in an official capacity related to her duties as a Member of Parliament, not including those listed in (1) above, what was, -
  - (a) the destination/s and dates of the travel;
  - (b) the purpose; and
  - (c) the period of time the Minister was outside of Western Australia?
- (3) For each instance listed in (1) and (2), where the Minister combined official duties with personal travel, what is the breakdown between time spent on official duties and time spent on personal travel?
- (4) At what times was the Minister out of Western Australia for travel of a personal nature exclusively, and did not include any official duties?

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- (5) For each time the Minister was travelling overseas, who was appointed as acting Minister?
- (6) Were there any instances where the Minister was travelling overseas and no acting Minister was appointed?
- (7) If yes to (6), when?

**MALCOLM PEACOCK**

Clerk of the Legislative Council