

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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## QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No. 143

WEDNESDAY, 13 JUNE 2007

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**Memo:** The electronic publication of Questions on Notice as part of the Notice Paper is available on the Parliament's Internet site at [www.parliament.wa.gov.au](http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au).

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### Questions postponed from previous sittings: -

Tuesday, 20 March 2007

- 1926. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Education and Training
- 2050. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Premier; Minister for Federal-State Relations; Trade; Innovation; Science; Public Sector Management
- 2052. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Mid West and Wheatbelt; Great Southern
- 2054. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services; Community Safety; Water Resources; Sport and Recreation
- 2057. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2059. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training; South West
- 2060. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Energy; Resources; Industry and Enterprise
- 2061. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government; Racing and Gaming; Multicultural Interests and Citizenship; Government Enterprises; Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure; Goldfields-Esperance; Youth

Thursday, 29 March 2007

- 2112. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Treasurer
- 2129. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Tuesday, 8 May 2007

- 2182. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Premier

- 2188. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 2189. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Corrective Services
- 2192. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Education and Training
- 2200. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2202. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2206. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2207. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- 2226. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2238. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2242. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2243. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2244. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2245. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2248. Mr M.J. Birney to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Mid West and Wheatbelt; Great Southern
- 2249. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government; Racing and Gaming; Multicultural Interests and Citizenship; Government Enterprises; Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure; Goldfields-Esperance; Youth
- 2258. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Corrective Services; Small Business; Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations
- 2261. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2262. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Wednesday, 9 May 2007

- 2264. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Education and Training
- 2265. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Education and Training
- 2274. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 2275. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Corrective Services
- 2278. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Education and Training
- 2284. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2286. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2289. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2290. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- 2293. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Resources
- 2300. Mr M.J. Birney to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Mid West and Wheatbelt; Great Southern
- 2301. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government; Racing and Gaming; Multicultural Interests and Citizenship; Government Enterprises; Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure; Goldfields-Esperance; Youth

2310. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Corrective Services; Small Business; Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations

Tuesday, 12 June 2007

- 2325. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Education and Training
- 2326. Mr T.R. Sprigg to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2327. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2328. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2329. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Resources
- 2330. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 2331. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 2332. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection
- 2333. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 2334. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Corrective Services
- 2335. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Premier
- 2336. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Premier
- 2337. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Health
- 2338. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Premier; Minister for Federal-State Relations; Trade; Innovation; Science; Public Sector Management
- 2339. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Deputy Premier; Treasurer; Minister for State Development
- 2340. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Mid West and Wheatbelt; Great Southern
- 2341. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government; Racing and Gaming; Multicultural Interests and Citizenship; Government Enterprises; Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure; Goldfields-Esperance; Youth
- 2342. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services; Community Safety; Water Resources; Sport and Recreation
- 2343. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Attorney General; Health; Electoral Affairs
- 2344. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Employment Protection; Housing and Works; Indigenous Affairs; Heritage; Land Information
- 2345. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 2346. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Disability Services; Tourism; Culture and the Arts; Consumer Protection
- 2347. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Education and Training; South West
- 2348. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Energy; Resources; Industry and Enterprise
- 2349. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Development; Fisheries; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne
- 2350. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Corrective Services; Small Business; Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations
- 2351. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; Peel

2352. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection; Communities; Women's Interests; Seniors and Volunteering
2353. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Health
2354. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
2355. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
2356. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Corrective Services
2357. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Corrective Services
2358. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Attorney General
2359. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Attorney General
2360. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Corrective Services
2361. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Health
2362. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Health
2363. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Energy
2364. Mr D.T. Redman to the Minister for Energy
2365. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Water Resources
2366. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Premier
2367. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Innovation
2368. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Science
2369. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government
2370. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Speaker
2371. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Corrective Services
2372. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Premier
2373. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Attorney General
2374. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Attorney General
2375. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Industry and Enterprise
2376. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Industry and Enterprise
2377. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Industry and Enterprise
2378. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Resources
2379. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Industry and Enterprise
2380. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Industry and Enterprise
2381. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Housing and Works
2382. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Housing and Works
2383. Mr T.R. Sprigg to the Minister for Youth
2384. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
2385. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training
2386. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Premier; Minister for Federal-State Relations; Trade; Innovation; Science; Public Sector Management
2387. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Deputy Premier; Treasurer; Minister for State Development

2388. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Mid West and Wheatbelt; Great Southern
2389. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government; Racing and Gaming; Multicultural Interests and Citizenship; Government Enterprises; Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure; Goldfields-Esperance; Youth
2390. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services; Community Safety; Water Resources; Sport and Recreation
2391. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Attorney General; Health; Electoral Affairs
2392. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Employment Protection; Housing and Works; Indigenous Affairs; Heritage; Land Information
2393. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
2394. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Disability Services; Tourism; Culture and the Arts; Consumer Protection
2395. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training; South West
2396. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Energy; Resources; Industry and Enterprise
2397. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Development; Fisheries; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne
2398. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Corrective Services; Small Business; Minister Assisting the Minister for Federal-State Relations
2399. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; Peel
2400. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection; Communities; Women's Interests; Seniors and Volunteering
2401. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Health
2402. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Peel
2403. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Peel
2404. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for South West
2405. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
2406. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
2407. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Community Safety
2408. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
2409. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Consumer Protection
2410. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Consumer Protection
2411. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
2412. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister representing the Minister for Government Enterprises
2413. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
2414. Mr M.J. Cowper to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
2415. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
2415. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

**Questions listed for this sitting: -**

2416. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Energy

I refer to Western Power Networks customer charter, and the opportunity for customers to register a query, concern or complaint, and ask -

- (a) how many written queries, concerns or complaints has Western Power Networks received from customers within the metropolitan area in the past 12 months;
- (b) of these, how many has the agency acknowledged within 10 business days, and how many has it responded to within 20 business days in the past 12 months; and
- (c) how many requests for payment of \$20 has Western Power Networks received from customers whose written query, concern or complaint has not been acknowledged within 10 business days or responded to within 20 business days?

2417. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Energy

I refer to Western Power Networks customer charter, and the agency's process of notifying customers of planned power interruptions, and ask -

- (a) how many interruptions to the electricity network due to maintenance were there throughout the metropolitan area during the past 12 months;
- (b) how many people within these areas were notified directly, with individual notices placed in letterboxes, during the same 12-month period;
- (c) how many newspaper advertisements to notify customers of planned power interruptions were published during the same 12-month period; and
- (d) how many requests for payment of \$20 has Western Power Networks received from customers who were not provided with any notice of planned interruptions?

2418. Mr M.J. Cowper to the Minister for Water Resources

- (1) What are the respective construction costs associated with the desalination plant proposals at -
  - (a) East Rockingham;
  - (b) Warnbro;
  - (c) Secret Harbour;
  - (d) Binningup;
  - (e) Kemerton; and
  - (f) Jurien Bay?
- (2) Will the Minister provide a full breakdown of the costings of each proposal?
- (3) Will the Minister advise what Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) appraisals or environmental assessments have been conducted at the proposed site at Binningup?
- (4) How far off Binningup does the proposed discharge pipe extend?
- (5) What are the Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates of the end of the discharge pipe?

2419. Mr M.J. Cowper to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the critical shortage of land in the Peel Region, due to the phenomenal growth of the area, which has resulted in the complete take up of urban land identified within the Peel Region, such that the wave of development is being pushed into alternative areas which are presently zoned rural?

- (2) How long does it take before a parcel of land within the Peel Region is rezoned from rural for the purposes of urban?

2420. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Community Safety

- (1) What analysis has been conducted by any of the Minister's agencies with regard to the use of speed cameras overseas?
- (2) Who carried out this research and when?
- (3) Have any reports been written by any of the Minister's agencies in this regard and, if so, will the Minister table them?

2421. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

- (1) What analysis has been conducted by the Police Service with regard to the use of speed cameras overseas?
- (2) Who carried out this research and when?
- (3) Have any reports been written by the Police Service in this regard and, if so, will the Minister table them?

2422. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

- (1) Which specific offences and penalties are available to be applied if drivers do not keep to the left hand lane of the road?
- (2) How many written cautions have been issued in the most recently recorded twelve month period for each of these offences?
- (3) How many penalties have been issued over the same period in relation to these offences?

2423. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

- (1) What measures are available to show the number of hours of police road patrols each year?
- (2) What are the figures for each calendar year (or fiscal year, whichever is more readily available) since 2000?
- (3) Is any breakdown possible showing the amount of time police patrol Western Australian roads in unmarked cars compared with marked vehicles and, if so, what are the respective figures for each year above?
- (4) Is any breakdown possible showing the amount of time police patrol Western Australian roads in all country regions combined compared with the metropolitan area and, if so, what are the respective figures for each year above?

2424. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Does the Police Service generally support the use of the 85th percentile when determining road speed limits, and -

- (a) if so, with what exceptions; and
- (b) if not, what is the methodology used to determine road speed limits favoured by the Police Service?

2425. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Does Main Roads generally support the use of the 85th percentile when determining road speed limits, and -

- (a) if so, with what exceptions; and
- (b) if not, what is the methodology used to determine road speed limits?

2426. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

- (1) When did the Police Service commence using speed cameras on overtaking lanes along the Bunbury Highway south of Mandurah?
- (2) How many speeding tickets have been issued to motorists for exceeding the speed limit on overtaking lanes along the Bunbury Highway south of Mandurah?

2427. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) What analysis has been conducted by any of the Minister's agencies with regard to the use of speed cameras overseas?
- (2) Who carried out this research and when?
- (3) Have any reports been written by any of the Minister's agencies in this regard and, if so, will the Minister table them?

2428. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

I refer the Minister to the Exmouth Naval Pier, which has in the past played host to dive enthusiasts and remains one of the best dive locations in Western Australia, and ask -

- (a) has a tender been awarded to anyone to operate a dive business from the Pier, and -
  - (i) if not, why not; and
  - (ii) if yes, who was the successful tenderer, and what are the terms and conditions of the contract;
- (b) if a tender has been awarded, why is the Pier not yet accessible to dive enthusiasts; and
- (c) when does the Minister expect that the Pier will be open to dive enthusiasts, and what is the cause of any delay?

2429. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Health

I refer to the dangerous waterborne human pathogen, 'Cryptosporidium', more commonly known as Giardia, and ask, how many cases of human infection by Giardias have been reported in Western Australia in -

- (a) 2004;
- (b) 2005;
- (c) 2006; and
- (d) 1 January 2007 to 31 May 2007?

2430. Mr J.N. Hyde to the Treasurer

- (1) Will Treasury's Budget premise that only 500 extra people a week are moving into Perth from interstate and overseas be reconsidered in the mid-year Budget review?



- (2) Can the Treasurer confirm that the research for determining interstate migration is based on Medicare changes of address?
- (3) In times of economic growth, such as Western Australia's 10 per cent plus annualised Gross Domestic Product (GDP), is the Medicare self-reporting by the young, male, affluent, mobile workforce demographic the most timely statistic to gauge changes in population needs?
- (4) In times of economic growth such as Western Australia's 10 per cent plus annualised GDP, is such growth explained (but under-reported) by a combination of interstate and international migration, student-visa and international backpacker employment at full capacity, and the failure of the federal GST system to curtail a booming cash economy?
- (5) Should Western Australia's infrastructure needs and timeframes be re-evaluated with more timely population and workforce estimates?

2431. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Water Resources

I refer to the rapid increase in the State's population and industry, and the impact of this growth on the demand for water, and ask -

- (a) is the following information, provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and dated 2004-2005, accurate -
  - (i) 1, 495 gigalitres of water was consumed in Western Australia, up 10% from the 2000-2001 figure;
  - (ii) water loss during distribution in Western Australia in 2004-2005 was 123 gigalitres, 17% of all water use;
  - (iii) total household water use was 383 gigalitres, 1 gigalitre less than in 2000-2001;
  - (iv) per capita use of water in Western Australia was 180 kilolitres, 77 kilolitres more than any other state or territory; and
  - (v) as of 30 June 2005, the total volume of water stored in the major Western Australian dams was 10,135 gigalitres, 83% of total capacity;
- (b) can the Minister explain how 17% of the State's 2004-2005 water consumption disappeared during distribution;
- (c) what would be the cost of 123 gigalitres of water at today's price;
- (d) what is the volume of water that disappeared during distribution in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007;
- (e) what would be the cost of this water loss at today's price;
- (f) who is ultimately responsible for all losses of water during distribution;
- (g) what must be done to prevent such massive losses;
- (h) what was the State's household water use for 2005-2006 and 2006-2007;
- (i) given the Australian Bureau of Statistics data that in 2004-2005, the State's per capita water use was 180 kilolitres, or an average 43% higher use than any other Australian state or territory, what is the explanation for this;
- (j) what was the per capita water consumption in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 -
  - (i) in kilolitres; and
  - (ii) in comparison with the rest of Australia;
- (k) can the Minister provide clear and concise information regarding all positive outcomes delivered by the mandatory ban on sprinkler use between 2001 to 2007;

- (l) can the Minister provide the actual amount of expenditure for all advertising promoting public restraint in the use of water between 2001 and 2007 inclusive;
- (m) can the Minister provide Key Performance Indicator outcome comparisons proving the success of sprinkler bans and related advertising campaigns between 2001 and 2007 inclusive;
- (n) can the Minister explain why this State's distributed water has the highest groundwater content of any Australian state or territory;
- (o) as of 31 May 2007 -
  - (i) what is the volume of water held in the major dams in this State in gigalitres; and
  - (ii) what volume of water is held, as a percentage of total capacity;
- (p) is it likely that the desalination plant, which cost the whole community \$387 million and currently delivers only 17% of the metropolitan area water requirements, will hold no realistic provision for the rest of the State;
- (q) will the first phase of the proposed desalination plant, with a projected costing of \$1 billion, provide just 3.3% of the State's water requirements, based on the 2004-2005 consumption figure only;
- (r) will the second phase, developed at an undisclosed sum, provide just 6.6% of the State's water requirements, based on the 2004-2005 consumption figure only;
- (s) is it true that the current \$387 million desalination plant, the proposed \$1 billion plant and its second billion dollar phase will not generate enough water to cover the 123 gigalitres that disappeared during distribution in 2004-2005;
- (t) will the current and proposed desalination plants, which cost the State a minimum of \$2.4 billion in construction costs alone, provide just 7% of total water consumption based on 2004-2005 figures;
- (u) is it possible that the provision of the whole of the metropolitan area's water needs through a desalinated water supply could cost \$32 billion in today's prices;
- (v) prior to the 2004 State Election, did the Water Corporation state that the transportation of water from the North-West, which would supply all of the metropolitan area and places in-between, would have an initial facilitation cost of \$4.6 billion;
- (w) why are the Western Australian horticulture and agriculture industries being singled out as scapegoats for the overuse of water while -
  - (i) fruit, nut, plantation, berry fruit and vegetable growers use 4.3 megalitres of water per cultivated hectare;
  - (ii) lawns, such as those surrounding Parliament House, require up to 6.8 megalitres of water per hectare; and
  - (iii) irrigated agriculture, including horticulture, had a gross value of \$545 million in 2004-2005;
- (x) why do at least two major Perth hotels have 309 dual occupancy guest rooms without dual flush toilet cisterns;
- (y) why do many other major accommodation facilities and large commercial premises not have dual flush toilet cisterns;
- (z) why did overall water consumption between 2000-2001 and 2004-2005 fall by 14% in Australia, but rose in Western Australia by 10%;

- (aa) despite having relatively similar climates, why do 48% of South Australian households have a rainwater tank compared to 12% in Western Australia; and
- (bb) does the Minister's responsibility for three other major portfolios impede the Minister's ability to manage the State's water crisis effectively?

2432. Mr A.P. O'Gorman to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government

Is the Minister aware that the City of Joondalup is not responding to public questions by ratepayers, dated 24 April 2007 and 22 May 2007, which are seeking information regarding how the City registers, manages and controls the type of chemicals, including herbicides, used within the City, and their application and distribution around natural bushland, public parks and drainage sumps?

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**PETER J. McHUGH**

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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