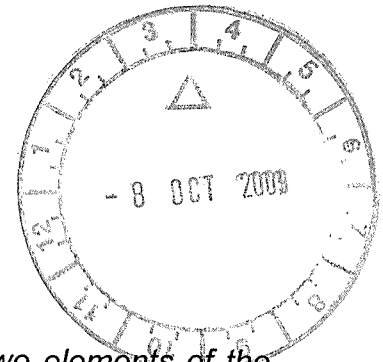


PUBLIC

Monday 21 September 2009



Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A1: Hon L Behjat asked for details of the two elements of the National Partnership Indigenous economic participation program implementation that are yet to be finalised.

Answer:

The Indigenous Economic Participation National Partnership (IEPNP) Implementation Plan is near finalisation. There are two elements of the IEPNP that are still under negotiation with the Australian Government.

These sections under negotiation relate to firstly, both government's commitments to increase Indigenous employment in the public sector, and secondly, the commitment of both Governments to reform government procurement policies to facilitate greater indigenous economic participation in major government awarded contracts in services and infrastructure.

WA has submitted a draft completed implementation plan for the IEPNP to the Australian Government and are awaiting feedback from them before proceeding to ministerial sign-off.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A2: Hon L Ravlich asked for details of the framework criteria that will be used to assess whether Indigenous communities are sustainable.

Answer:

The Department of Indigenous Affairs is currently working on a Western Australian Remote Aboriginal Communities Planning Framework where policies and criteria to assess the sustainability of communities will be developed.

This policy is still under development and will be built upon the national principles for investment in remote locations agreed to by the Premier and Prime Minister under the *COAG National Partnership on Remote Service Delivery*. (see attachment)

National principles for investments in remote locations

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE SERVICE DELIVERY

A1 National principles for investments in remote locations include:

- (a) remote Indigenous communities and remote communities with significant Indigenous populations are entitled to standards of services and infrastructure broadly comparable with that in non-Indigenous communities of similar size, location and need elsewhere in Australia;
- (b) investment decisions should aim to: improve participation in education/training and the market economy on a sustainable basis; and reduce dependence on welfare wherever possible; and promote personal responsibility, and engagement and behaviours consistent with positive social norms;
- (c) priority for enhanced infrastructure support and service provision should be to larger and more economically sustainable communities where secure land tenure exists, allowing for services outreach to and access by smaller surrounding communities, including:
 - (i) recognising Indigenous peoples' cultural connections to homelands (whether on a visiting or permanent basis) but avoiding expectations of major investment in service provision where there are few economic or educational opportunities; and
 - (ii) facilitating voluntary mobility by individuals and families to areas where better education and job opportunities exist, with higher standards of services.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A3: Hon L Ravlich asked for a schedule of the priority policy areas being worked on by the Cabinet and Policy division.

Answer:

In addition to matters identified before the Committee, other areas of priority include:

- Coordination and implementation of administrative measures to enhance the approvals process.
- Submissions made to the Commonwealth Hawke Review of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, Ministers Macklin and McClelland's review of native title matters (3 submissions to the Commonwealth Government).
- Assisted the establishment and work of the Economic Audit Committee (EAC).
- Established the Taskforce to respond to the community needs arising out of the closure of the Ravensthorpe Nickel Mine (RNM).
- Coordinated WA Government submissions to:
 - 5 National Inquiries/ Reviews
 - 29 Commonwealth negotiations on various Treaties
 - 11 Commonwealth reports on Australia's obligations under various treaties
- Nation Building and Jobs Plan implementation and coordination
- Policy to support changes to the Delegation of Powers to State Officers, in the event of amendments by the Commonwealth Government to Section 8G of the Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands Acts.
- Cabinet Submissions, briefings and secretariat support provided for Premier and Treasurer at 6 COAG meetings
- WA cross-agency input coordinated for 8 COAG Working Groups and some 50 related subgroups
- Under the new Federal Financial Relations arrangements:
 - Finalised 6 National Agreements for signing by WA
 - Finalised 20 National Partnership Agreements for signing by WA
 - Finalised 17 Implementation Plans (under National Partnership Agreements) for signing by WA
- Prepared 28 editions of COAG Update Bulletin and distributed to relevant WA Government and non-government agencies

- Liaison with the COAG Infrastructure Working Group to identify how Commonwealth approvals, under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, can be improved so that major projects of State significance can be implemented expeditiously while meeting appropriate heritage and environmental approvals.
- COAG approved the design of the expanded Mandatory Renewable Energy Target (MRET) scheme.
- COAG signed Memorandum of Understanding for National Energy Efficiency Strategy.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A4: Hon K Travers asked at what date did the Department of the Premier and Cabinet take over responsibility for support of the Economic and Expenditure Reform Committee?

Answer:

The Economic and Expenditure Reform Committee secretariat was formally transferred to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet on 1 May 2009.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A5: Hon L Ravlich asked how much was taken out of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's budget to create the Public Sector Commission, and was there an increase in total expenditure?

Answer:

The Department's 2008-09 appropriation was reduced by \$10.918 million (projected expenditure \$11.897 million) following the transfer of functions to the Public Sector Commission on 28 November 2008. Similarly, the Department's appropriation was reduced by \$1.064 million (projected expenditure \$1.092 million) following transfer of the Office of Development Approvals Coordination to the Department of State Development.

In aggregate, across the two departments, there was an increase in total expenditure for 2008-09 as advised by Mr Conran during the hearing on 21 September 2009 when he identified the requirement to create a new position of Commissioner to head the Public Sector Commission. While there were additional start-up costs, they were minimal.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A6: Hon K Travers asked for a reconciliation tracking changes in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's 2007-08 budget to what was spent in 2008-09 and how it has been adjusted for the 2009-10 budget papers.

Answer:

In the discussion preceding this question, Hon L Ravlich compared the Budget Estimate for Net Cost of Services for 2008-09 of \$124.862 million (published on page 84 of the 2008-09 Budget Statements) to the Budget Estimate for the Total Cost of Services for 2009-10 of \$129.199 million published on page 85 of the 2009-10 Budget Statements and sought an explanation as to why the budget had not reduced when the Department had lost two key functions.

The net cost of services is not comparable to the total cost of services, as the former excludes income. As the budget statements reveal, DPC receives substantial income each year, principally speed and red light camera fines that are provided into the Road Trauma Trust Fund.

Therefore it is more appropriate to compare the total cost of services for 2008-09 and 2009-10, ie \$153.642 million for 2008-09 and \$129.199 for 2009-10. The decrease is \$24.443 million.

This decrease in projected budget is accounted for by removal of the 2009-10 accrual appropriation of \$20.7 million for the functions that were transferred to the Public Sector Commission in November 2008, targeted savings of \$9.8 million for 2009-10 and other one-off adjustments between 2008-09 and 2009-10 of \$4.6 million, offset by increases in appropriation and income of \$11.3 million in 2009-10.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A7: Hon K Travers asked –

- (1) What is the budget for the Government Garage for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?*
- (2) How many drivers are employed by the Government Garage in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?*
- (3) What is the budget for overtime for the Government Garage for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?*
- (4) How many vehicles were/are allocated to Office Holders for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 with a breakdown into 4 cylinder, 6 cylinder and 8 cylinder cars?*
- (5) How many staff were/are in Ministerial Offices for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 including details of seconded officers and whether they have government vehicles at the same time?*

Answer:

- (1) The accrual expenditure budget for the Government Garage for 2007-08 was \$1.493 million, for 2008-09 was \$1.945 million and for 2009-10 is \$2.021 million.
- (2) 19 Ministerial Chauffeurs were employed by the Government Garage as at 30 June 2008, 19 Ministerial Chauffeurs as at 30 June 2009 and 21 Ministerial Chauffeurs as at 21 September 2009. Two additional Ministerial Chauffeurs were employed on 6 month contracts to cover for a Ministerial Chauffeur on Leave without pay and two Ministerial Chauffeurs taking long service leave for 6 months. These contracts cease in December 09.
- (3) The cash budget for Government Garage overtime for 2007-08 was \$400,000, for 2008-09 was \$479,000 and for 2009-10 is \$510,000.
- (4) As at 30 June 2008 there were 32 vehicles supplied to Office Holders; 7 were 4-cylinder cars, 25 were 6-cylinder cars and there were no 8-cylinder cars in the fleet. As at 30 June 2009 there were 38 vehicles supplied to Office Holders; 7 were 4-cylinder cars, 31 were 6-cylinder cars and there were no 8-cylinder cars in the fleet. As at 21 September 2009 there were 38 vehicles supplied to Office Holders; 7 were 4-cylinder cars, 31 were 6-cylinder cars and there were no 8-cylinder cars in the fleet.
- (5) As at 27 June 2007, 212 section 68 TOG, seconded and permanent staff were employed in ministerial offices (including Leaders of the Opposition). Fourteen (14) seconded officers were provided with government vehicles,

four (4) of those vehicles were provided by the agencies seconding officers to the Department.

As at 26 June 2008, 218 section 68 TOG, seconded and permanent staff were employed in ministerial offices (including Leaders of the Opposition). Fourteen (14) seconded officers were provided with government vehicles cars, three (3) of those vehicles were provided by the agencies seconding officers to the Department.

As at 17 September 2009, 181 section 68 TOG, seconded and permanent staff were employed in ministerial offices (including Leaders of the Opposition). Eleven (11) seconded officers were provided with government vehicles. No vehicles were provided by the agencies seconding officers to the Department.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A8: Hon K Travers asked for details of the budget for ministerial air charter services for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10.

Answer:

The accrual budget (on a full cost of service basis) for ministerial air charter services for 2007-08 was \$6,348,119, for 2008-09 was \$6,513,864 and for 2009-10 is \$6,466,414.

Monday 21 September 2009

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Question No. A9: Hon G Watson asked

- (1) How many Council Members are still in temporary accommodation?*
- (2) How many Council Members are still in non-preferred accommodation?*
- (3) When will these Council Members be provided with permanent accommodation?*

Answer:

- (1)-(2) As at 30 September 2009, 10 Council Members were in temporary accommodation. All 10 members are considered to be in non-preferred (ie non-permanent accommodation). Nine members had temporary accommodation within their electorate. One member was in temporary accommodation outside their electorate but adjacent to Parliament House. All 10 members in temporary accommodation have now identified and agreed upon a permanent location for their parliamentary electorate office.

More detail is contained in the attached spreadsheet.

- (3) October 2009 – 1
November 2009 – 3
December 2009 – 1
January 2010 – 1
No date determined (awaiting completion of lease negotiations) - 4

New MLC Fit Out Status - 30/9/09

Member				Region	Existing Premises Available May 2009	Existing Premises Accepted as Permanent by Member	Member currently in Temporary Premises within Electorate	Member currently in Temporary Premises outside Electorate	Member in temporary accomodation but have identified and agreed on permanent location	Projected time to occupy permanent Premises	
Hon	Ms	Behjat	Liz	MLC	North Metropolitan	Y (ex Burton)	N	Y	N	Y	W/Ending 30/10/09
Hon	Mr	Benson-Lidholm	Matt	MLC	Agricultural	N Electorate, Y(W/Pth) 55 Colin St	N	N (W/Pth)	Y (W/Pth)	Y (W/Pth)	Lease Negotiations in Progress
Hon	Ms	Bullock	Helen	MLC	Mining and Pastoral	N	N/Applic	Y-Kalg.	N	Y (Kalg)	Lease Negotiations in Progress
Hon	Mr	Chapple	Robin	MLC	Mining and Pastoral	Y (ex Archer)	N	N (W/Pth)	N/Applic	N/Applic	Occupying
Hon	Mr	Chown	Jim	MLC	Agricultural	Y (ex Donaldson)	N	N (W/Pth)	N/Applic	N/Applic	Occupying
Hon	Ms	Davies	Mia	MLC	Agricultural	Y (W/Pth)	Y	N/Applic	N/Applic	N/Applic	Occupying
Hon	Ms	Duncan	Wendy	MLC	Mining and Pastoral	Y (ex Duncan)	N (requested larger tenancy)	Y	N	Y	Awaiting Confirmation proposed tenancy available
Hon	Mr	Edman	Phil	MLC	South Metropolitan	Y (ex Mills)	N	Y	N	Y	Lease Negotiations in Progress
Hon	Mr	Ferguson	Jock	MLC	East Metropolitan	Y (ex Griffiths)	Y	N/Applic	N/Applic	N/Applic	Occupying
Hon	Mr	Gardiner	Philip	MLC	Agricultural	N	N/Applic	Y (Coomberdale)	N	Y	W/Ending 22/1/10
Hon	Mr	Goiran	Nick	MLC	South Metropolitan	N	N	N	N	N/Applic	Occupying
Hon	Ms	Hayden	Alyssa	MLC	East Metropolitan	Y (ex Pham)	N	Y	N	Y	W/Ending 27/11/09
Hon	Mr	Holt	Colin	MLC	South West	Y (ex Benson-Lidholm)	Y	N/Applic	N/Applic	N/Applic	Occupying
Hon	Ms	MacLaren	Lynn	MLC	South Metropolitan	Y (ex Scott)	N	Y	N	Y	W/Ending 27/11/09
Hon	Mr	Mischin	Michael	MLC	North Metropolitan	Y (ex Halligan)	N	Y	N	Y	W/Ending 4/12/09
Hon	Mr	Trenorden	Max	MLC	Agricultural	Y	Y	N/Applic	N/Applic	N/Applic	Occupying
Hon	Ms	Xamon	Alison	MLC	East Metropolitan	Y (ex Cash)	N	Y	N	Y	W/Ending 6/11/09