

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No. 107

THURSDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2006

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.

Questions postponed from previous sittings: -

Tuesday, 15 August 2006

1273. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; State Development; Federal Affairs
1310. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development; Fisheries; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne
1328. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development; Fisheries; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne
1339. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development; Fisheries; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne
1345. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs; Tourism; Culture and the Arts
1356. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Mid West and Wheatbelt
1367. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development; Fisheries; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne

Wednesday, 23 August 2006

1427. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; the Mid West and Wheatbelt

Tuesday, 29 August 2006

1439. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development
1441. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

1442. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Thursday, 31 August 2006

1452. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Deputy Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Government Enterprises; Minister Assisting the Minister for Public Sector Management

1457. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Housing and Works; Consumer Protection; Heritage; Land Information

1458. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

1461. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Energy; Science and Innovation

1463. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development; Fisheries; the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne

1471. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Energy

1472. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Energy

Tuesday, 12 September 2006

1473. Mr D.T. Redman to the Minister representing the Minister for Education and Training

1474. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

1475. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Health

1476. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Education and Training

1477. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Housing and Works

1478. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Housing and Works

1479. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for the Environment

1480. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs

1481. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Community Development

1482. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Treasurer

Wednesday, 13 September 2006

1483. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister representing the Minister for Education and Training

1484. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Racing and Gaming

1485. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Corrective Services

1486. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Health

1488. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Thursday, 14 September 2006

1489. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Corrective Services

1490. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Housing and Works

1491. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Housing and Works

1492. Mr T.G. Stephens to the Attorney General

1493. Mr T.G. Stephens to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Tuesday, 19 September 2006

1494. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Wednesday, 20 September 2006

1495. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health

1496. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health

1497. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

1498. Mr T.R. Sprigg to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

1499. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for the Environment

1500. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

1501. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

1502. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

1503. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

1504. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

1505. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

1506. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Health

Thursday, 21 September 2006

1507. Dr J.M. Edwards to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

1508. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health

Tuesday, 26 September 2006

1509. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Treasurer

1510. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Water Resources

1511. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Energy

Wednesday, 27 September 2006

1512. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

1513. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

1514. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

1515. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Community Development

1516. Dr E. Constable to the Minister representing the Minister for Education and Training

1517. Dr E. Constable to the Minister representing the Minister for Education and Training

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1536. Dr E. Constable to the Minister representing the Minister for Education and Training
1537. Dr E. Constable to the Minister representing the Minister for Education and Training
1538. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Land Information
1539. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Energy
1540. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Questions listed for this sitting: -

1541. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism
- (1) How many employees have left Tourism WA in the past 5 years and what were their job titles, pay levels and their reason for leaving?
 - (2) How many employees who started at Tourism WA in the past 5 years have also worked for the Department of Commerce and Trade or the Department of Industry and Resources?
 - (3) What are the names, positions and pay levels of those employees?
1542. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism
- (1) What is the name of the overarching marketing strategy for selling Western Australia to the rest of the world?
 - (2) What are its objectives?
 - (3) When was the strategy developed and implemented?
 - (4) Will the Minister table the strategy, and if not, why not?
1543. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism
- (1) Does Tourism WA in any way directly or indirectly compete with WA's tourism industry for tourism business?

- (2) Does Tourism WA plan to introduce any policies, strategies or commercial interests that will directly compete with WA tourism businesses into the future?
- (3) If so to either (1) or (2), please list all Tourism WA's current or planned commercial interests that compete or will compete with WA's tourism businesses?
- (4) What happens to any money generated by Tourism WA's commercial interests, either currently or in the future?
- (5) Is it appropriate that a Government commission should be competing directly against private tourism businesses that it is meant to be representing?
- (6) Is it appropriate to compete against the private sector as a way of subsidising budget expenditure or to cover increasing costs associated with employing bureaucrats?

1544. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism

- (1) Have the key objectives of the Event and Business Tourism Strategy 2003-2008 to "Achieve recognition for the tourism industry as a leading economic contributor to the State" failed?
- (2) Is the tourism industry now recognised as a major economic contributor to the State?

1545. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism

- (1) How much funding did the other states allocate toward event and business tourism in the last financial year?
- (2) How much funding did the other states allocate toward convention tourism in the last financial year?
- (3) Why is the Minister unable to get a significant increase in the level of funding for the Perth Convention Bureau despite the fact that the bureau creates a very significant multiplying effect for convention tourism?

1546. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism

- (1) What is the exact methodology that is used to calculate event evaluation such as the Red Bull Air Race and Rally Australia?
- (2) Has the event evaluation methodology changed at all in the past 5 years, and if so –
 - (a) what were the changes;
 - (b) when were the changes made; and
 - (c) who authorised the changes?
- (3) Can the Minister explain the importance of having event evaluation methodology and why it is important to be able to accurately compare events over time?
- (4) Does the Government have a minimum standard return for events and if so, what is that rate of return?
- (5) What is the purpose of the minimum standard?

1547. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism

In reference to the Review of Adventure Tourism Visitor Safety in WA, can the Minister inform the House –

- (1) What are the financial resources that will be allocated to the 24 recommendations, given the Minister's comments that they have all been accepted?

- (2) Will those financial resources come from the Tourism WA budget and if so, which programs will be cut?
- (3) Does a tour operator have to get a tour operator licence from the Department of Environment and Conservation if they do not operate within national parks or reserves?
 - (a) If not, is the operator effectively unregulated and unaffected by the review recommendations?
- (4) Why is the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department for Planning and Infrastructure responsible for the safety standards for tourism operators rather than a dedicated tourism agency?
- (5) What are the Adventure Activities Standards?
- (6) Will all tourism operators have to be part of the National Outdoor Leaders Registration Scheme; if so, can the Minister explain the scheme and what the costs will be for operators?
- (7) Has the Minister made the National Tourism Accreditation Program and associated Adventure Tourism and Tour Operator Standards mandatory for tour operators?
 - (a) If so –
 - (i) what will operators be required to do;
 - (ii) how much will it cost; and
 - (iii) how long do operators have to comply?
- (8) Will Tourism WA fund the requirements on the Tourism Council of WA to obtain ISO9001 endorsement, to increase the number of verification officers and to expand and administer a customer feedback system?
 - (a) If so, does that create a massive conflict of interest for the Tourism Council of WA's role in lobbying government on behalf of the industry?
- (9) If no to question (8) will tourism operators have to pay for the requirements through Tourism Council membership fees?
- (10) How many new verification officers will there be?

1548. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism

In reference to the Review of Adventure Tourism Visitor Safety in WA, can the Minister inform the House –

- (1) When will the marketing campaign in recommendation (xvi) begin and how much funding has been allocated?
- (2) Will trip registers for Karijini and Kalbarri National Parks have to be lodged on the day the trip enters the gorge and where do they have to be lodged?
 - (a) If not, how will the trip registers operate?
- (3) Can trip registers be lodged at park entry gates even if staff are not present?
- (4) How much is the expected cost for risk assessment and emergency response plans for tourism sites around WA in recommendation (xx), what are the relevant sites and will it be funded by Tourism WA?
- (5) Who are the tour industry representatives on the implementation group?
- (6) When will all 24 recommendations be implemented?
- (7) What are the KPI's in recommendation (xxiv)?

- (8) Is it true that the bureaucratic nature of these recommendations stem from the fact that there was little or no input by adventure tourism operators?
- (9) Is it true that the bureaucracy has become institutionalised within Tourism WA and it severely constrains tourism operators with no tangible benefit?
- (10) Is it true that the bureaucratic nature of Tourism WA is siphoning funds away from the main role of Tourism WA to market WA?

1549. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Tourism

Can the Minister inform the House –

- (a) whether the latest International Survey Figures confirm that Western Australia was the only state or territory to have backpacker visitor numbers decline in the year ending June 2006;
- (b) what was WA's percentage fall for backpacker visitors for the year ending June 2006;
- (c) whether WA had the greatest percentage fall in overall international visitors to the year ending June 2006; and
- (d) whether Tourism WA failed its primary statutory function of growing market share faster than the national average in the year ending June 2006?

1550. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Treasurer

Can the Minister advise what funds were specifically allocated to be spent by the Western Australian State Government on projects and works, in the 2005-2006 budget, in the following electorates –

- (a) Collie-Wellington;
- (b) Cottesloe; and
- (c) Central Kimberley-Pilbara?

PETER J. McHUGH

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
