

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

QUESTIONS

No. 009

Wednesday, 12 June 2013

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

POSTPONED QUESTIONS

Notice Given *Thursday, 11 April 2013*

2. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
8. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum

Notice Given *Tuesday, 14 May 2013*

12. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
20. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
21. Hon Robin Chapple to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport
23. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment
25. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment
26. Hon Robin Chapple to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Police
27. Hon Robin Chapple to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
32. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development
33. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
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Postponed Questions

36. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
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67. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
68. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

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Postponed Questions***Notice Given*** ***Wednesday, 15 May 2013***

- 70. Hon Ken Travers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport
- 71. Hon Ken Travers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport
- 72. Hon Ken Travers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport

Notice Given ***Thursday, 16 May 2013***

- 73. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Disability Services
- 74. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport
- 76. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum

Notice Given ***Tuesday, 21 May 2013***

- 79. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment

Notice Given ***Tuesday, 11 June 2013***

- 82. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
- 83. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
- 84. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
- 85. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Education
- 86. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment
- 87. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 88. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
- 89. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for State Development
- 90. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 91. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Heritage
- 92. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
- 93. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy
- 94. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 95. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy

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96. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Energy:

I refer to question without notice No. 76, and I ask:

- (a) what were the results of the tests in each of the past 12 months; and
- (b) how many meters were above the error tolerance and how many were below, in each of these monthly tests?

97. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

- (1) Will the Minister table the terms of reference for the working group investigating market options for sheep products?
- (2) Will the Minister list the members of the group?
- (3) When did the group start meeting?
- (4) How often does the group meet?
- (5) Will the Minister table minutes of any meetings held between 1 January 2013 and 31 May 2013?

98. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

For the months of May 2013, May 2012 and May 2011, how many applicants were provided with financial assistance to pay utility bills for the following suburbs:

- (a) Leeming;
- (b) Canning Vale;
- (c) Morley;
- (d) Wanneroo;
- (e) Willagee;
- (f) Samson;
- (g) Spencer Park;
- (h) Balcatta;
- (i) Dalyellup;
- (j) High Wycombe;
- (k) Kingsley;
- (l) Clarkson;
- (m) Noranda;
- (n) Yokine;
- (o) Currambine;

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- (p) Parkwood;
- (q) Innaloo;
- (r) Huntingdale;
- (s) Ellenbrook;
- (t) Darch; and
- (u) Peppermint Grove?

99. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) How many children were under the care of the Department of Child Protection (DCP) during the month of May 2013, by district?
- (2) How many of these were placed in non-government group facilities, by district?
- (3) How many of these were in placements with DCP foster carers by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?
- (4) How many of these were in placements with non-government organisation foster carers, by district?

100. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) As at 31 May 2013, what was the total funded full time equivalent (FTE) employee allocation by directorate and district?
- (2) As at 31 May 2013:
 - (a) what were the vacancies in the full time equivalent (FTE) terms by directorate and district;
 - (b) how many of those vacancies were subject to advertising at 31 May 2013, by district; and
 - (c) of those not subject to advertising as at 31 May 2013, why not?
- (3) As at 31 May 2013, what was the total service delivery full time equivalent (FTE) employee allocation by directorate and district?
- (4) As at 31 May 2013, what were the total vacant service delivery positions by directorate and district?
- (5) As at 31 May 2013, what was the total full time equivalent (FTE) case worker allocation by directorate and district?
- (6) As at 31 May 2013, what were the total full time equivalent (FTE) vacant case worker positions?
- (7) As at 31 May 2013, what was the full time equivalent (FTE) number of employees by directorate and district on permanent contract and on fixed term contract?

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- (8) As at 31 May 2013, how many Department for Child Protection (DCP) field officers have been co-located with Western Australian Police staff from the family protection unit, in regional and rural offices as part of the strategy to combat family and domestic abuse?
- (9) What are the co-location sites where the DCP officers referred to in (8) are situated?

101. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) As at 31 May 2013, what was the number of new Safety and Wellbeing Assessments for a Child recorded during that month, by district?
- (2) As at 31 May 2013, what was the number of new Safety and Wellbeing Assessments with a harm assessment recorded during the month, by district?
- (3) As at 31 May 2013, what was the number of children in care for more than 20 days with no planning recorded, by district?
- (4) As at 31 May 2013, what was the number of Safety and Wellbeing Assessment with a harm assessment open for more than 90 days, by district?
- (5) As at 31 May 2013, what were the number of open Safety and Wellbeing Assessments with a harm assessment, by district?
- (6) As at 31 May 2013, what was the number of 'monitored' or 'active holding' cases not allocated to workers caseload, by district?

102. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) As at 31 May 2013, what was total number of applications to be a foster carer approved by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?
- (2) As at 31 May 2013, what was the total number of registered foster carers, by category of relative carer and non-relative carer, by district?
- (3) As at 31 May 2013, what was the total number of interim foster carers, by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?
- (4) As at 31 May 2013, what was the total number of registered foster carers with children placed, by category of relative and non-relative carers, by district?
- (5) As at 31 May 2013, what was the total number of interim foster carers with children placed, by category of relative and non-relative carers, by district?

103. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) During the month of May 2013, what was the total number of registered carers with four or more children placed with them by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?
- (2) During the month of May 2013, what was the total number of interim carers with four or more children placed with them by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?

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- (3) During the month of May 2013, how many carers had an interim registration for more than 90 days by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?
- (4) During the month of May 2013, how many carers had a 'carer record screening' overdue or not recorded by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?
- (5) During the month of May 2013, how many carers had overdue 'carer reviews' by category of relative and non-relative carer, by district?

104. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) For the period, 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013, what was the number of initial inquiries in relation to suspected child sexual abuse received, by district and by category of mandated referrer?
- (2) For the period, 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013, what was the number of Safety and Wellbeing Assessment with harm assessment, by district and by category of harm:
 - (a) neglect;
 - (b) sexual;
 - (c) physical abuse; and
 - (d) emotional abuse?
- (3) Has Western Australia Police notified the Department of Child Protection that charges had been in respect of any of the Safety and Wellbeing Assessments recorded in the period 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013?
- (4) If yes to (3), how many individuals were charged and what was the nature of these charges?

105. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) For the period, 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013, how many Responsible Parenting Agreements have the Department for Child Protection implemented?
- (2) How many of those Responsible Parenting Agreements listed above originated from a referral from another State Government Department, and how many were referred by each department?
- (3) How many parents approached to enter into a Responsible Parenting Agreement during this period, refused the agreement?
- (4) How many Responsible Parenting Agreements included an agreement for the parents to:
 - (a) take part in counselling or parenting skills training;
 - (b) take reasonable steps to ensure their child attends school;
 - (c) take reasonable steps to ensure their child avoids contact with particular people or places; or; and
 - (d) undertake other measures?

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- (5) How many juveniles, whose parents agreed to a Responsible Parenting Agreement have:
- (a) improved their attendance at school; and
 - (b) re-offended since the Agreement was made?

106. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) During the months of March 2013, April 2013 and May 2013, how many individuals did the Department of Child Protection refer to Centrelink for compulsory income management, by district?
- (2) How many individuals with children have presented seeking financial assistance on two or more occasions to the department for the period 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013, by district?
- (3) How many of these individuals have been assessed for the purpose of referral to the income management program, by district?

107. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the Minister for the Environment's letter of 6 September 2012, Ref: 42-16536 to myself and question without notice on 7 August 2012 in regards to declarations of interest by members of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), and ask further:

- (a) were any other interests declared by any member of the EPA over the same period as declared by Dr Chris Whittaker or Mr Denis Glennon in any EPA assessments;
- (b) if yes to (a), who made those declarations and over what matters;
- (c) of the declarations of interest made in that period, as declared by Dr Chris Whittaker or Mr Denis Glennon, and any declarations arising from (a) above, what was the date that the relevant matters, covered by those declarations, were first presented to the EPA board and its members;
- (d) what was the date of the declaration of interest, and by which party, in respect of each of the items covered in (c);
- (e) of those declarations of interest identified in (c), did any members stand aside from the decision making process in respect of those matters, and if so:
 - (i) on what date did the EPA member or chair stand aside;
 - (ii) did the standing aside occur at the same time as the declaration of interest; and
 - (iii) if not why not; and
- (f) if no to (e), in respect to any of the declarations of interest identified in (c) or (e), why not?

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108. Hon Robin Chapple to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for State Development:

I refer to mineral lease 235SA containing the Mount Goldsworthy mine, and I ask:

- (a) has acid forming material been detected in some of the waste dumps;
- (b) if yes to (a), to what extent has this material caused ground water contamination;
- (c) if yes to (a), what steps is the government taking to effect remediation of this contamination;
- (d) when will any remediation work referred to in (c) begin; and
- (e) who will provide the estimated \$100,000,000 needed to adequately rehabilitate this mine site?

109. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the release of the W13-20 acreage, adjacent to the Abrolhos Islands, for oil and gas exploration, and I ask:

- (a) was the Minister or his department consulted by either the Department of Mines and Petroleum or State Development, or by the Federal Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism prior to the release of the W13-20 or W13-19 acreage;
- (b) if yes to (a), when, by whom and what was the Minister's or his department's response;
- (c) if no to (a), is there a requirement for the Federal Government to consult with the relevant state departments prior to the release of acreage;
- (d) does the Minister consider that oil and gas exploration poses a significant threat to the environment of the Abrolhos Islands A class nature reserve and nearby western rock lobster fishery;
- (e) if yes to (d), what are those threats;
- (f) if no to (d), why not;
- (g) if yes to (d), has the Minister or his department conveyed those concerns to the Federal Minister or the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism;
- (h) if yes to (g), what were the Minister or his department's concerns or comments; and
- (i) if yes to (g), will the Minister table the correspondence to that effect?

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110. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the release of the W13-20 acreage, adjacent to the Abrolhos Islands, for oil and gas exploration, and I ask:

- (a) was the Minister or his department consulted by either the Department of Mines and Petroleum or State Development, or by the federal Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism prior to the release of the W13-20 or W13-19 acreage;
- (b) if yes to (a), when, by whom and what was the Minister's or his department's response;
- (c) if no to (a), is there a requirement for the Federal Government to consult with the relevant state departments prior to the release of acreage;
- (d) does the Minister consider that oil and gas exploration poses a significant threat to the Abrolhos Islands western rock lobster fishery;
- (e) if yes to (d), what are those threats;
- (f) if no to (d), why not;
- (g) if yes to (d), has the Minister or his department conveyed those concerns to the federal Minister or the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism;
- (h) if yes to (g), what were the Minister or his department's concerns or comments; and
- (i) if yes to (g), will the Minister table the correspondence to that effect?

111. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment:

In regard to construction of the Carnarvon Flood Mitigation Works under the *Water Agencies Power Act 1984*, including the construction of four levees and associated drainage works, I ask:

- (a) was an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the area to be impacted carried out prior to construction being commenced;
- (b) if yes to (a), what level of assessment was applied and what conditions are in place;
- (c) if no to (a), why not;
- (d) is the Minister aware that the excavation of soil from the Lawson Street Borrow Areas 1 and 2 and Nickol Bay Borrow Areas 1 and 2 and the construction of adjacent levee banks will cause changes to the flow of rainwater onto the wetland, thus disturbing the breeding ground of the Australian Painted Snipe (*Rostratula australis*), a species listed as 'rare or likely to become extinct' in Western Australia under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and 'vulnerable' under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- (e) if no to (d), why not;
- (f) if yes to (d), what plans exist to mitigate the impacts of the earthworks and rehabilitate the area so it still functions as a natural ecosystem;

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- (g) is the Minister aware that the creation of borrow pits, levees and associated drainage will cause changes to the hydrology of the McNeill Claypan (Nickol Bay) that will threaten the survival of a demographically isolated population of *Eremophila laanii* located on the claypan surface and an isolated and vegetatively propagating relic clump of *Owenia acidula* located on the southern sand dune margin of the claypan;
- (h) if no to (g), why not; and
- (i) if yes to (g), what plans exist to mitigate the effects of the earthworks and protect these populations?

112. Hon Robin Chapple to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water:

In regard to construction of the Carnarvon Flood Mitigation Works under the *Water Agencies Power Act 1984*, including the construction of four levees and associated drainage works, I ask:

- (a) was an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the area to be impacted carried out prior to construction being commenced;
- (b) if yes to (a), what level of assessment was applied and what conditions are in place;
- (c) if no to (a), why not;
- (d) is the Minister aware that the excavation of soil from the Lawson Street Borrow Areas 1 and 2 and Nickol Bay Borrow Areas 1 and 2 and the construction of adjacent levee banks will cause changes to the flow of rainwater onto the wetland, thus disturbing the breeding ground of the Australian Painted Snipe (*Rostratula australis*), a species listed as 'rare or likely to become extinct' in Western Australia under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and 'vulnerable' under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- (e) if no to (d), why not;
- (f) if yes to (d), what plans exist to mitigate the impacts of the earthworks and rehabilitate the area so it still functions as a natural ecosystem;
- (g) is the Minister aware that the creation of borrow pits, levees and associated drainage will cause changes to the hydrology of the McNeill Claypan (Nickol Bay) that will threaten the survival of a demographically isolated population of *Eremophila laanii* located on the claypan surface and an isolated and vegetatively propagating relic clump of *Owenia acidula* located on the southern sand dune margin of the claypan;
- (h) if no to (g), why not; and
- (i) if yes to (g), what plans exist to mitigate the effects of the earthworks and protect these populations?

MALCOLM PEACOCK

Clerk of the Legislative Council