

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No. 193

TUESDAY, 6 MAY 2008

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: -

Wednesday, 24 October 2007

2863. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Tuesday, 26 February 2008

2981. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Corrective Services

Tuesday, 11 March 2008

3152. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Housing and Works

Wednesday, 12 March 2008

3157. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Housing and Works

Wednesday, 19 March 2008

3168. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Premier

Thursday, 20 March 2008

3175. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

3179. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training

3181. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training

3183. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training

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- 3225. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3226. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3227. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3228. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3229. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3230. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3231. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Education and Training

Tuesday, 1 April 2008

- 3233. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Public Sector Management
- 3241. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- 3246. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health
- 3254. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health
- 3255. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health
- 3256. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health
- 3257. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health
- 3259. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health
- 3269. Dr J.M. Woollard to the Minister representing the Minister for Employment Protection
- 3271. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Wednesday, 2 April 2008

- 3274. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3276. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Corrective Services
- 3278. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Energy
- 3281. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister representing the Minister for Employment Protection
- 3282. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister representing the Minister for Employment Protection
- 3283. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Public Sector Management
- 3287. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 3288. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Housing and Works
- 3289. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3290. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3293. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3295. Mr C.J. Barnett to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3297. Mr C.J. Barnett to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Thursday, 3 April 2008

- 3300. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for the Environment
- 3301. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Corrective Services

Wednesday, 9 April 2008

- 3308. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Treasurer
- 3313. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Government Enterprises
- 3314. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Employment Protection
- 3318. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Tourism
- 3320. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

Thursday, 10 April 2008

- 3322. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Energy
- 3324. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- 3325. Mr G. Snook to the Minister for Energy

Questions listed for this sitting: -

- 3326. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Energy

I refer to the answer to questions without notice Nos 164 and 171 of 8 and 9 April on the \$780 million “subsidy for electricity consumers” and the confirmation that private providers will be able to access some of the \$780 million subsidy if they are selling power to Synergy below the cost of production, and I ask:

- (a) are any private energy providers currently supplying electricity to Synergy for resale into the incontestable market, which services domestic consumers;
- (b) given that the vesting contracts arranged by the Government upon the break-up of Western Power in 2006 required 100% of the uncontested market to be purchased from Verve, but over time part of this market would be tendered out to the private sector, how many tenders have been awarded;
- (c) what is the level of generation that has been tendered;
- (d) what proportion of the uncontested market has now been tendered;
- (e) when will these tenders be supplying electricity into the South West Grid for the uncontested market, and how much electricity will that be; and
- (f) will the Government need to change its current Community Service Obligation (CSO) policy which, only allows the Government to make CSO payments to Government owned businesses or since Synergy is projected to continue making millions in profit under the current price regime, is the use of Synergy purely as the distribution point of the money the Government’s attempt to circumvent its own policy?

- 3327. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) Of the 52 days in 2008 that the Royal Agricultural Showgrounds special events railway station will be used, which events will the station be used for?
- (2) How many times has the station been used for each year from 2001 to 2007 inclusive, and for what events?

- 3328. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) How many ships are scheduled to export coal from Western Australia in 2008 and 2009?

- (2) What is the tonnage of coal expected to be exported?
- (3) Through which ports will the coal be exported?
- (4) Will any coal be exported through the Port of Bunbury in 2008 and 2009?
- (5) What is the cost per ton of transporting coal from Collie to Kwinana Port by rail?
- (6) What is the cost per ton of transporting coal from Collie to Bunbury Port by rail?
- (7) Has either the Bunbury Port Authority or the State Government sought financial contributions from potential or current coal exporters for a dedicated coal berth at Bunbury Port or other coal export infrastructure?
- (8) If so, how much was sought and what conditions or circumstances were attached?

3329. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Energy

I refer the Minister to the 2006-2007 Annual Report for Verve Energy, page 15, and ask:

- (1) On the Income Statement, what is the itemised breakdown for the item marked "Other Expenses" that accounts for \$51,242,000?
- (2) On the Income Statement in the item marked "Income Tax Benefit", does this figure represent:
 - (a) an actual payment of cash; or
 - (b) the recognition of a tax benefit that will not be paid in cash?

3330. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Water Resources

- (1) Are the Water Corporation, the Department of Water or, the Water and Rivers Commission responsible for the construction or maintenance of bridges for access to property over drainage reserves under any circumstances?
- (2) If so, what are the circumstances?

3331. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) What votes and divisions have been conducted in the Legislative Assembly in relation to the Greater Bunbury Regional Scheme?
- (2) What were the outcomes of the votes and divisions?

3332. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training

With reference to question on notice 3148 regarding maintenance needs at Kalamunda Senior High School:

- (1) Why did the Minister fail to provide specific information about the current maintenance requirements, as was requested?
- (2) Will the Minister now advise:
 - (a) what is the current estimated value of maintenance which is required;
 - (b) what are the details of maintenance which is required;
 - (c) have funds been allocated for such maintenance;
 - (d) if not, when will funds be allocated; and
 - (e) what are the specific details of the "more than \$5 million has been spent on maintenance and capital works at the school since 2001"?

3333. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Corrective Services

I refer to Assembly Question on Notice 3144 of 11 March 2008 which was answered on 9 April 2008 regarding Dreamtime Consultancy and contract for Tender No.2997/2007 for Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training and I ask:

- (1) Could the Minister please list the names of the directors of Dreamtime Consultancy?

3334. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Corrective Services

- (1) Can the Minister provide a breakdown, per prison, of the number of prison officers, excluding those on long service leave, stress leave, secondments and medical leave, who are currently working in Western Australian prisons?
- (2) What is the authorised strength of prison officers in Western Australia?
- (3) What is the current strength of prison officers in Western Australia?
- (4) What is the current muster (number of prisoners) in Western Australian prisons?
- (5) What is the ratio of prison officers to prisoners at all Western Australian prisons?
- (6) How many weapons were found in Western Australian prisons in 2006, 2007, and 2008?
- (7) How many prisoners tested positive, or were found with illegal drugs and contraband in 2006, 2007, and 2008?
- (8) How many prisoners were sexually assaulted in 2006, and 2007, and 2008?
- (9) Are condoms available in Western Australian prisons?
- (10) What sanctions are placed on prisoners who refuse to attend work in prison workshops?
- (11) For each prison, how many prisoners died whilst in custody in 2006, 2007, and 2008:
 - (a) of these, were any in suspicious circumstances; and
 - (b) how many were suicides?

3335. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Housing and Works

Could the Minister answer the following questions, in the same format as the answer to Question on Notice No. 2238 (asked 20 June 2007), for the following three month period:

July, August and September 2007:

- (2) How many Western Australians in the following regions applied for the First Start program -
 - (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) South Metropolitan;
 - (c) East Metropolitan
 - (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (3) How many Western Australians in the following regions have been accepted for the First Start program -
 - (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) South Metropolitan;
 - (c) East Metropolitan;

- (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (4) What is the total amount of First Start program loans the Government has committed to in each of the following regions -
- (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) East Metropolitan;
 - (c) South Metropolitan;
 - (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (5) What is the rate of interest being charged by the Government for the First Start program loans?

3336. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Housing and Works

Could the Minister answer the following questions, in the same format as the answer to Question on Notice No. 2238 (asked 20 June 2007), for the following three month period:

October, November and December 2007-

- (1) How many Western Australians in the following regions applied for the First Start program -
- (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) South Metropolitan;
 - (c) East Metropolitan;
 - (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (2) How many Western Australians in the following regions have been accepted for the First Start program -
- (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) South Metropolitan;
 - (c) East Metropolitan;
 - (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (3) What is the total amount of First Start program loans the Government has committed to in each of the following regions -
- (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) East Metropolitan;
 - (c) South Metropolitan;
 - (d) South West;

- (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (4) What is the rate of interest being charged by the Government for the First Start program loans?

3337. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Housing and Works

Could the Minister answer the following questions, in the same format as the answer to Question on Notice No. 2238 (asked 20 June 2007), for the following three month period:

January, February and March 2008 –

- (1) How many Western Australians in the following regions applied for the First Start program -
 - (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) South Metropolitan;
 - (c) East Metropolitan
 - (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (2) How many Western Australians in the following regions have been accepted for the First Start program -
 - (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) South Metropolitan;
 - (c) East Metropolitan;
 - (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (3) What is the total amount of First Start program loans the Government has committed to in each of the following regions -
 - (a) North Metropolitan;
 - (b) East Metropolitan;
 - (c) South Metropolitan;
 - (d) South West;
 - (e) Mining and Pastoral; and
 - (f) Agricultural?
- (4) What is the rate of interest being charged by the Government for the First Start program loans?

3338. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Housing and Works

I refer to the article published in the Mandurah Coastal Times on 12 March 2008, in which the Minister was quoted as saying that a consultant would be appointed this week to work on the environmental and drainage issues raised by the EPA affecting the development at the Keralup (formerly, the Amarillo) site, and I ask:

- (1) Has a consultant been appointed yet:

- (a) if yes, can the Minister provide the details of who has been appointed; and
- (b) if no, can the Minister advise as to what steps have been taken to source an appropriate consultant?
- (2) How much is the consultant expected to cost the taxpayer?
- (3) When is the release of land at the Keralup site now expected to commence given the environmental issues?
- (4) Has the Minister received any advice that the size of the land release at Keralup is likely to be reduced as a result of the environmental issues raised by the EPA:
 - (a) further to this, how many blocks are now anticipated to be available for release?
- (5) Given that the Minister identified concerns about potential environmental impacts of the Keralup development, some time before the release of the EPA report, I ask: what had the Government previously done to address the environmental and drainage issues associated with the development?

3339. Mr G.M. Castrilli to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) Please list and detail what track or rolling stock upgrades are planned for the Australind train in 2008?
- (2) How long will the works take?
- (3) Will the service be disrupted due to works taking place?
- (4) If the answer to question 3 is yes, how will it be disrupted and how long will that disruption last?
- (5) Of any planned works undertaken over the coming year – will any of those be undertaken overnight to prevent or reduce the disruption?
- (6) Please list and detail what track or train upgrades are planned for the Australind train in 2009?
- (7) How long will the works take?
- (8) Will the service be disrupted due to works taking place?
- (9) If the answer to question 8 is yes, how will it be disrupted and how long will that disruption last?
- (10) Of any planned works undertaken in 2009 – will any of those be undertaken overnight to prevent or reduce the disruption?
- (11) What upgrades/replacements, if any, are planned for the Australind train and tracks after 2009?

3340. Mr G. Snook to the Minister for the Environment

- (1) Could the Minister please advise if there is a policy to provide district and regional offices with both the national and state flags to fly at their offices?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) If there is a policy to provide flags, what is the Department's budget allocation for the provision of flags to all of its offices and, is this funding directed to the individual district and regional offices?

3341. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training

- (1) How many operational classroom areas are situated in each of the following primary schools, and what are they:

- (a) Flinders Park Primary;
 - (b) Parkfield Primary;
 - (c) Campbell Primary;
 - (d) Huntingdale Primary;
 - (e) Atwell Primary;
 - (f) Charthouse Primary;
 - (g) Rostrata Primary;
 - (h) Settlers Primary;
 - (i) Winthrop Primary;
 - (j) Ashdale Primary;
 - (k) Ellenbrook Primary;
 - (l) Rawlinson Primary;
 - (m) Beaumaris Primary;
 - (n) Butler Primary;
 - (o) Carramar Primary;
 - (p) Clarkson Primary;
 - (q) Currambine Primary;
 - (r) Kinross Primary; and
 - (s) Tapping Primary?
- (2) How many operational classroom areas are situated in each of the following secondary schools, and what are they:
- (a) Australind Senior High;
 - (b) Kelmscott Senior High;
 - (c) Mandurah Senior College;
 - (d) Rossmoyne Senior High;
 - (e) Willetton Senior High;
 - (f) Ballajura Community College;
 - (g) Mt Lawley Senior High;
 - (h) Churchlands Senior High; and
 - (i) Woodvale Senior High?
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PETER J. McHUGH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
