

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No. 203

WEDNESDAY, 18 JUNE 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, 6 May 2008

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

Wednesday, 14 May 2008

3372. Mr J.E. McGrath to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Tuesday, 10 June 2008

3379. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Treasurer

3380. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Education and Training

3381. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

3382. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government

3383. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

3384. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for the Environment

3385. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health

3386. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health

3387. Dr K.D. Hames to the Minister for Health

3388. Dr G.G. Jacobs to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- 3389. Dr G.G. Jacobs to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3390. Mr G. Snook to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3391. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3392. Mr C.J. Barnett to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3393. Mr R.C. Kucera to the Minister for Health
- 3394. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3395. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Health
- 3396. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Health
- 3397. Mr R.C. Kucera to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3398. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Government Enterprises
- 3399. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Health
- 3400. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Health
- 3401. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for the Environment
- 3402. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for the Environment
- 3403. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for the Environment
- 3404. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for the Environment
- 3405. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for the Environment

Wednesday, 11 June 2008

- 3406. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3407. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3408. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3409. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3410. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3411. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3412. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3413. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3414. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Public Sector Management
- 3415. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Health
- 3416. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Health
- 3417. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Treasurer
- 3418. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Treasurer
- 3419. Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan to the Minister for Health
- 3420. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3421. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3422. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3423. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training
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- 3436. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3437. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3438. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3439. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3440. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Energy; Resources; Industry and Enterprise
- 3441. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Premier
- 3442. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Education and Training
- 3443. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services
- 3444. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- 3445. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Minister for Health
- 3446. Mr M.W. Trenorden to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food
- 3447. Mr J.H.D. Day to the Minister for Education and Training

Thursday, 12 June 2008

- 3448. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Health
- 3449. Mr A.J. Simpson to the Minister for Public Sector Management
- 3450. Dr S.C. Thomas to the Minister for Education and Training

Tuesday, 17 June 2008

- 3451. Mr D.T. Redman to the Minister for Water Resources

Questions listed for this sitting: -

- 3452. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Housing and Works

In relation to the \$60 million commitment in 2006-2007 to deliver 161 houses through the Government Regional Officers Housing scheme, including 111 replacement houses and 50 new homes, over three years:

- (a) how many new or replacement houses have been allocated to the Department of Education and Training, and where are they located; and
- (b) of the number highlighted in (a), how many have been completed and where are they located?

3453. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister for Housing and Works

In relation to maintaining housing for public officers, particularly housing available for teachers:

- (a) what maintenance work has been carried out on the Department of Education and Training housing stock in the past 12 months, and where have these houses been located;
- (b) what repairs and maintenance work is outstanding on the Department of Education and Training housing stock, and where are these houses located; and
- (c) of the houses highlighted in (b), what work, and where, will this be carried out in 2008?

3454. Mr M.J. Birney to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food

With regard to the wild dog and camel ingress into pastoral Western Australia, the ABC regional radio talkback program on Monday 26 May 2008 featuring the need for a barrier fence to protect pastoral areas, and a newspaper article titled 'Call for Fence to Keep out wild Dogs' which appeared on page 6 in the Farm Weekly Thursday, 3 May 2007, I ask:

- (a) does the Minister agree that the wild dog and camel ingress problem into pastoral Western Australia is occurring at an alarming rate and that a failure of current control methods to halt wild dog attacks on the pastoral industry will lead to the decimation of the industry;
 - (i) if no to (a) why not;
- (b) does the Minister agree that there is widespread industry support for a Pastoral Barrier fence like the one in South Australia over and above the cost benefit analysis already paid for by industry, ie Peggs Report;
 - (i) if no to (3) why not;
- (c) does the Minister agree that as the owners of leasehold properties, it is the government's sole responsibility to fund a study for a pastoral fence barrier;
 - (i) if no to (5) why not;
- (d) how does the Minister intend to deal with a rangeland full of feral animals and weeds if pastoralists are not fostered given the Department of Environment and Conservation is already struggling to manage lands;
- (e) can the Minister explain why Zone Control Authority and Biosecurity Groups' unpaid members should continue to support their existence if they apparently have little or no credibility;
- (f) are the Zone Control Authority's and Biosecurity Groups' viewed as being important to the Minister;
 - (i) if no to (f) why not;
 - (ii) if yes to (f) why;
- (g) what is the purpose of the Zone Control Authority and Biosecurity Groups';

- (h) did the joint sitting on or about September 2007 of the Agricultural Protection Board and State Barrier Fence Committee approve or recommend the need for a detailed feasibility study into the need for a barrier fence to protect pastoral areas;
 - (i) if yes to (h) what specifically did they or recommend;
 - (ii) will the Minister make the resources available to fully fund a feasibility study which also includes a cost benefit analysis similar to that proposed for the state barrier fence to wild dog standard;
 - (iii) If no to (i) why not; and
- (i) will The Minister advise who was responsible for designing and implementing the buffer zone concept for pastoral areas?

3455. Mr M.J. Birney to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) Does the Minister agree that the survival of the pastoral industry is essential to maintain the rangelands for the people of Western Australia;
 - (a) if no (1) why not; and
 - (b) if yes to (1) why?
- (2) Does the Minister agree that camel ingressions into pastoral areas is destroying and contaminating water resources;
 - (a) if no to (2) why not; and
 - (b) if yes to (2) to what extent?
- (3) Does the Minister agree that camel ingressions into pastoral areas is destroying fencing and water infrastructure;
 - (a) if no to (3) why not; and
 - (b) if yes to (3) to what extent?
- (4) Does the Minister agree that the wild dog problem in the rangelands has destroyed the viability of the Goldfields pastoral industry;
 - (a) If no to (4) why not; and
 - (b) If yes to (4) why?
- (5) Given that the wild dog problem has escalated to the point where most pastoral properties in the Goldfields have become unviable, will the Minister fully fund a feasibility study into erecting a barrier fence to protect pastoral properties from wild dog attacks and camel ingressions; and
 - (a) If no to (5) why not?
- (6) Can the Minister state who will be responsible for looking after and managing the rangelands in regard to feral animals and existing weeds when pastoralists no longer exist; and
 - (a) if no to (6) why not?
- (7) Does the Minister agree that there is a need to foster, promote and help pastoralists in Western Australia to manage the rangelands;
 - (a) if yes to (7) to what extent; and
 - (b) if no to (7) why not?
- (8) Does the Minister agree that the increasing wide scale acquisition of pastoral properties by mining companies and indigenous groups who practice low level wild dog control has had a devastating affect on surrounding pastoral leases;

- (a) If no to (8) why not; and
 - (b) If yes to (8) why?
- (9) Is the Minister aware that the buffer zone concept is widely regarded by the pastoralist industry as being naive and ill conceived as it relies on the active participation by all pastoral lease holders and the continued thorough auditing by the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia; and
- (a) if no to (9) why ?

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PETER J. McHUGH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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