

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

QUESTIONS

No. 1

Tuesday, 11 November 2008

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

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QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

*Notice given**Tuesday, 11 November 2008*

1. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health

I refer to the answer given to question on notice No. 1062 on 9 September 2003, and ask -

- (1) Is thimerosal/thiomersal still used in any vaccines in Western Australia for children under five years old?
- (2) If yes to (1), -
 - (a) why has thimerosal/thiomersal not yet been entirely phased out;
 - (b) in which vaccines is it currently contained;
 - (c) how is it ensured that doctors and nurses know if they are using a vaccine that contains thimerosal/thiomersal;
 - (d) approximately how many Western Australian children per year are vaccinated with vaccines that contain thimerosal/thiomersal;
 - (e) of the number referred to in (d), approximately how many are Aboriginal children; and
 - (f) when will the phase out of thimerosal/thiomersal from vaccines in Western Australia be complete?

2. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Disability Services

- (1) When will the \$34 million 2008 Liberal election commitment, be allocated for additional supported accommodation for people with disabilities?
- (2) How many people will benefit from this funding?
- (3) How many people with disabilities currently access supported accommodation across Western Australia?

3. Hon Sue Ellery 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 October 2008?
- (2) How many of these were placed in DCP families?
- (3) How many in placements with non-Government group facilities?
- (4) How many in placements with DCP foster carers?
- (5) How many in placements with non-Government organisation foster carers?

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- (6) With reference to children under the care of the DCP, how many allegations of child abuse were reported in the month of October 2008?
 - (7) What was the category breakdown of these allegations, -
 - (a) sexual;
 - (b) physical;
 - (c) emotional;
 - (d) psychological; and
 - (e) neglect?
 - (8) How many foster carers were actively caring for children in Western Australia during the month of October 2008?
4. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Community Services
- (1) What funding is being invested in Western Australian childcare facilities?
 - (2) During the 2008 election, what funding was committed to the Collie Childcare centre?
 - (3) How was Collie Childcare determined to be in need of new funding?
 - (4) What will this funding be used for?
 - (5) When will the funding be available?
 - (6) What other child care centres will receive new funding?
5. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
- (1) Can you please outline the details of the Cost of Living Rebate for Seniors?
 - (2) How many eligible single seniors will receive this rebate?
 - (3) How many eligible couple seniors will receive this rebate?
 - (4) When will this rebate be paid to seniors?
 - (5) How much do you expect the Cost of Living Rebate to increase for the next financial year?
6. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
- (1) What eligibility criteria will be reviewed for the Western Australian seniors' card?
 - (2) Can you guarantee that all current seniors will remain eligible for this card?
 - (3) When will this review begin?
 - (4) Who will be involved in this review?
 - (5) When is this review expected to be completed?
 - (6) Can you guarantee that the finalised review will be made a public document?

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7. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering

- (1) How will the Western Australian seniors' card be promoted to seniors living in rural and regional areas?
- (2) Will any additional discounts be allocated to those seniors living in rural and regional areas?

8. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering

- (1) Can you please outline the details of the Home Security Rebate?
- (2) When will this rebate be available?
- (3) How will seniors access this rebate?
- (4) What security devices are included in this rebate?
- (5) How will the rebate criteria be monitored?
- (6) How many seniors households in Western Australia are eligible for this rebate?

9. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection

In relation to the Working with Children screening checks, I ask, -

- (1) How many screening for the working with children checks were completed in the month of October 2008?
- (2) How many people were issued with a negative notice in the month of October 2008?
- (3) What were the reasons for each of the negative notices?
- (4) How many people have been issued with interim negative notices in the month of October 2008?
- (5) What is the current average time takes for applicants to receive their working with children cards where, -
 - (a) there is no criminal record; and
 - (b) there is a criminal record?

10. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering

- (1) When will a Seniors' Ministerial Advisory Group be established?
- (2) How many members will be included in this advisory group?
- (3) How will the membership of the advisory group be chosen?
- (4) Will the Minister advertise publicly for expressions of interest?
- (5) If no to (4), why not?
- (6) Will this group report directly to the Minister?
- (7) How regularly will this group report to the Minister?

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(8) How will this group engage with the seniors' population?

11. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Disability Services

(1) What funding will be allocated to staffing resources at the five new out-of-home respite facilities in that are committed to be constructed in both metropolitan and rural Western Australia?

(2) How will the Minister guarantee that these facilities will be staffed appropriately at all times?

12. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation

I refer to the Liberal Party 2008 election commitments, and ask -

(1) What funding will be allocated to Dallyellup and Eaton sporting fields?

(2) When will this funding be available?

(3) What Government program will distribute these funds?

(4) When will development of these sporting facilities begin?

(5) When is it expected that these new sporting facilities will be available for public use?

13. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation

I refer to the Liberal Party 2008 election commitments, and ask -

(1) How will the location of the Dallyellup and Eaton sporting fields be decided?

(2) Who will make this decision?

(3) Will the location be open to public comment?

14. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation

I refer to the Liberal Party 2008 election commitments, and ask -

(1) When will the \$1.5 million funding contribution be made to the Kalgoorlie Drag Strip Project?

(2) What funding program will this contribution come from?

15. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Transport

I refer to the Liberal Party 2008 election commitment to complete the Lake Raeside section of the Goldfields Highway, and ask -

(1) What progress has been made on this project?

(2) What is the expected completion date of this project?

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(3) What Government Program is the \$14 million funding drawn from?

16. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health

I refer to the lack of a dialysis service at Leonora Hospital, and ask -

- (1) How many people within the catchment area for Leonora Hospital either need or imminently need dialysis?
- (2) Of these, how many people are not reasonably able or are unwilling to access necessary or imminently necessary dialysis from Kalgoorlie or Perth?
- (3) Will the Department fund the provision of a dialysis machine, water filters and operator at Leonora Hospital?
- (4) If yes to (3), when?
- (5) If no to (3), why not?
- (6) In 2007-2008, what contribution did the Department make to projects aimed at prevention of kidney disease in the Goldfields?

17. Hon Giz Watson to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

I refer to the conference 'Building a Misconduct Resistant Public Sector' breakfast forum held on 29 October 2008, at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre, and ask -

- (1) Were you, as Premier, invited to attend this forum?
- (2) Did you attend?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) Which Members of Parliament, who are members of the Liberal Party, the National Party of Australia, or Independent, attended?

18. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Local Government

I refer to farm inspections by the Department's Animal Welfare Inspectors, and ask -

- (1) How many inspections have occurred in 2007-2008 to date?
- (2) For each inspection that has occurred in 2007-2008, -
 - (a) what was the location;
 - (b) what was the industry;
 - (c) was notice given; and
 - (d) if yes to (c), how much notice?
- (3) Are there any animal cruelty proceedings currently underway in regard to cases of cruelty on farms?

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- (4) If yes to (3), -
 - (a) how many; and
 - (b) which industries are involved?
- (5) What budget was there for this work in 2007-2008?
- (6) What budget is there for this work in 2008-2009?

MALCOLM PEACOCK
Clerk of the Legislative Council