

QUESTIONS BOOKLET

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 7 APRIL 2022

Questions appear according to the date on which notice was delivered.

QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

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- 586. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Corrective Services; Industrial Relations
- 587. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Forestry
- 588. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
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- 597. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services; Innovation and ICT; Medical Research; Volunteering
- 598. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Hydrogen Industry
- 599. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts; Sport and Recreation; International Education; Heritage
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- 601. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police; Road Safety; Defence Industry; Veterans Issues
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- 603. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport; Planning; Ports
- 604. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Finance; Aboriginal Affairs; Racing and Gaming; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
- 605. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services

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- 607. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health; Mental Health
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- 609. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Disability Services; Small Business; Fisheries; Seniors and Ageing
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- 617. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
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- 626. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Finance
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679.	Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police
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682.	Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General
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Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General

684.

QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

Notice Given Thursday, 7 April 2022

685. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to Western Australia's Domestic Gas Policy and its requirement for gas equivalent to 15 percent of exports available for Western Australian consumers, and I ask:

- (a) what percentage of natural gas exports are currently being made available for Western Australian consumers, given the concerns around rising cost of living; and
- (b) what measures are being taken to ensure LNG producers are maintaining their requirement to provide 15 percent of exported natural gas to Western Australia?

686. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to current natural gas projects proposed to begin operation in Western Australia, and I ask:

- (a) how many natural gas projects are set to begin this year;
- (b) how many natural gas projects have been proposed to start in the next 12 months; and
- (c) how many of those in (b) have been approved?

687. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to natural gas projects in Western Australia over the last six years, and I ask:

- (a) how many natural gas projects are currently approved and operating in Western Australia now compared to 2016; and
- (b) what are the lengths of the currently operating contracts compared to contracts operating in 2016?

688. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the predicted natural gas shortfall projected for 2024-25, and I ask:

- (a) how many jobs in the natural gas sector are projected to be lost in the event of a shortfall; and
- (b) given the mining sector relies heavily on natural gas, should we expect mass loss of jobs in the mining sector as well?

Questions Asked Today

Notice Given Thursday, 7 April 2022

689. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Youth:

I refer to the Cadets WA program, administered by the Department of Communities, and I ask, in the 2019-20 and 2020-2021 financial years, what was the total number of participants who took part in the program?

690. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services:

I refer to the Hardship Utility Grant Scheme (HUGS), and I ask, what was the total amount of funding allocated to the scheme in the following financial years:

- (a) 2019-20;
- (b) 2020-21; and
- (c) 2021-22?

691. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services:

- (1) I refer to the Hardship Utility Grant Scheme (HUGS), and I ask, in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years, how many applicants received funding as part of this scheme via:
 - (a) Water Corporation;
 - (b) Synergy;
 - (c) Horizon Power; and
 - (d) Alinta Energy?
- (2) For each of the agencies referred to in (1)(a)-(d), what was the total expenditure allocated to each in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years?

692. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services:

I refer to the Hardship Utility Grant Scheme (HUGS), and I ask, in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years, can the Minister advise:

- (a) the total number of applications received for a HUGS grant; and
- (b) the total number of applications granted for a HUGS grant?

693. Hon Neil Thomson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the Western Australia Police Force decision to enforce section 114 of the *Liquor Control Act 1988* in Kununurra on 26 March 2022 due to requests from the WA Country Health Service (WACHS), and I ask:

- (a) was the Minister made aware that the WACHS staff has requested the Western Australia Police Force to enforce section 114:
 - (i) if yes to (a), on what date;

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- (b) was the Minister notified that staff were concerned about their ability to handle a COVID-19 outbreak:
 - (i) if yes to (b), on what date;
- (c) how many COVID-19 patients have been admitted to Kununurra Hospital since 28 March 2022;
- (d) at any time in the last four weeks, has Kununurra Hospital Emergency Department reached capacity;
- (e) if yes to (d), on what dates and for how long; and
- (f) to the Minister's knowledge, was invoking section 114 considered earlier that 25 March 2022:
 - (i) if yes to (f), when?

694. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the answer to question on notice 491, which informed the House that as at 31 December 2021 there have now been 31 cases of babies who showed signs of life after an abortion procedure, and I ask:

- (a) has the Department reported each of the last five deaths to the Coroner;
- (b) if yes to (a), when; and
- (c) if no to (a), why not?

695. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police:

I refer to the ABC article of 10 December 2021 entitled *East Kimberley education worker cleared of criminal charges after leaking dire school attendance figures* which reported that "After a two-day trial in Kununurra Magistrates Court, Brock Burston was found not guilty of improperly releasing confidential information", and I ask:

- (a) how many hours were recorded by those prosecuting the case; and
- (b) was there any other associated expenditure and, if so, how much?

696. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Planning:

I refer to the City of Swan's resolution at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 2 March 2022 to "write to the Minister of Transport to confirm the State Government's intention to commence the necessary process to make Lloyd Street a State Road", and I ask:

- (a) does the State Government now have ownership of Lloyd Street and the Lloyd Street Bridge project;
- (b) if no to (a), is this process underway and when will the State Government take ownership of Lloyd Street;

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- (c) will the State Government agree to pause all works, including clearing and infilling of the floodplain, on the Lloyd Street Bridge project until the Federal Government independent assessment of the project under section 10 of the *Aboriginal and Torres strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* is complete;
- (d) if no to (c), when will clearing and infilling begin on the site; and
- (e) the 2017 Jacobs traffic modelling report shows that the Lloyd Street bridge will not ease congestion, instead it will funnel more traffic into an already overloaded intersection with Clayton Road, what future plans does the State Government have to improve traffic flow in Midland given the bridge will not ease congestion?

697. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Environment:

- (1) I refer to the October 2020 review of the Federal *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* by Professor Graeme Samuels, that identified chronic underfunding of the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment. In a submission to the Samuel review the Wentworth Group of Scientists cited work by Whittle et al (2019) stating that "only 15% of the required funding for target species recovery is currently available" and that "poor allocation of existing funds have further hampered recovery efforts".
 - This pattern of downsizing departmental budgets for the environment is evident in every jurisdiction in Australia. Furthermore, funding of environmental programs such as Western Shield and forest recreation programs, formerly managed by the Department of Conservation and Land Management, then by the Department of Environment and Conservation, then by the Department of Parks and Wildlife and now by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction (DBCA), have over the years had their funding partly replaced by donations in cash or kind from private companies. Alcoa is one such company that underwrites these public services (for example, Carnaby Cockatoo artificial breeding refuges) while destroying walking and riding tracks and contributing to the destruction of forest and habitat that endangers the very animals that these programs seek to protect. In this context, I ask:
 - (a) are records kept of the Government's annual funding of the following broad categories:
 - (i) Parks and Wildlife and Public Attractions; and
 - (ii) Conservation, Biodiversity and Environment;
 - (b) if yes to (a), can the Minister please table the annual data for each category for at least one of the following time periods:
 - (i) the last 20 years;
 - (ii) the last 10 years; and
 - (iii) the last five years;
 - (c) if no to (a), why not; and

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- (d) if no to (b), why not?
- (2) In the context of supplementary funding to DBCA activities, I note that DBCA is the body that administers the Bibbulmun track and Alcoa is a company whose mining activities have caused it to be realigned several times since it was opened in 1979. I also note that Alcoa has donated and/or funded new track works, some of which is administered or sponsored by DBCA and some by the Bibblumun Track Foundation whose mission is to "assist" DBCA with manpower and/or funding for track works and maintenance, and I ask:
 - (a) does DBCA know how many times Alcoa's bauxite mining has caused the Bibbulmun track to be realigned since it was first opened in 1979;
 - (b) if yes to (a), will the Minister table documents that show the changes to the track over this time and a summary of key dates and changes;
 - (c) if no to (a), why not;
 - (d) can DBCA tabulate its past annual expenditure on maintenance of the Bibbulmun track;
 - (e) if yes to (d), will the Minister table the annual expenditure data for at least one of the following time periods:
 - (i) the last 20 years;
 - (ii) the last 10 years; and
 - (iii) the last five years;
 - (f) if no to (d), why not;
 - (g) can DBCA tabulate the annual contributions of funding and/or services contributed toward maintenance by the Bibbulmun Track foundation over the last 20 years;
 - (h) if yes to (g), will the Minister table the annual contributions data for at least one of the following time periods:
 - (i) the last 20 years;
 - (ii) the last 10 years; and
 - (iii) the last 5 years;
 - (i) if no to (q), why not;
 - (j) does DBCA know how much money was contributed to Bibbulmun track alignment by Alcoa over the last 20 years either directly to DBCA or through the Bibbulmun Track foundation;
 - (k) if yes to (j), will the Minister table this for at least one of the following time periods:
 - (i) the last 20 years;
 - (ii) the last 10 years; and
 - (iii) the last five years;
 - (l) if no to (j), why not;

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- (m) does DBCA keep track of all annual contributions either directly or through secondary foundations by Alcoa in the form of funding and/or services to any and/or all DBCA programs over the last 20 years;
- (n) if yes to (m), will Minister table:
 - (i) the annual contributions data for at least one of the following time periods:
 - (A) the last 20 years;
 - (B) the last 10 years; and
 - (C) the last five years;
 - (ii) a breakdown of the annual contributions including information identifying which programs received assistance;
 - (iii) if no to (i), why not; and
 - (iv) if no to (ii), why not;
- (o) does DBCA receive supplementary funding and assistance from other companies and foundations besides Alcoa; and
- (p) if yes to (o), will the Minister table the annual funding and assistance data for at least one of the following time periods:
 - (i) the last 20 years;
 - (ii) the last 10 years; and
 - (iii) the last five years?

698. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

I refer to the Pinjarrra Heavy Haulage Deviation Project, and I ask:

- (a) on what date did the Minister provide section 18 approval for this project;
- (b) how can the Minister guarantee that the Pinjarra Heavy Haulage Deviation project won't disturb the Pinjarra Massacre sites;
- (c) what confidence can Traditional Owners have in the consultation process that was followed by Main Roads Western Australia, given the vast majority of Traditional Owners oppose development in the area, yet the Government seems to believe that there is community support for this project;
- (d) will the Government commit to a review of the Section 18 approvals in light of extensive community opposition and work with Traditional Owners to obtain their free, prior and informed consent under the new *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*; and
- (e) what is the timeline for implementing the new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Code and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan?

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699. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the media reports of the East Metropolitan Health Service's litigation against Dr Marian Sturm, and the impact this litigation has had on patients accessing some forms of stem cell therapy, and I ask:

- (a) are metropolitan health service providers subject to a model litigant policy;
- (b) if yes to (a), does this policy include consideration of the impact of litigation on individual patients and public health outcomes; and
- (c) do metropolitan health service providers have an overriding duty of care to patients and the public?

700. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services:

I refer to question without notice 143, asked on 15 March 2022, and questions without notice 165, asked on 16 March 2022, and I ask:

- (a) what 'possible criminal conduct' was allegedly committed by the Aboriginal woman whose home was raised by the Western Australia Police Force;
- (b) was there any possible criminal conduct committed by the eight public officers referred to the Western Australia Police Force by the Communities, Investigations and Professional Standards directorate on 21 January 2022; and
- (c) if yes to (b), by how many of the eight public officers and what was the possible criminal conduct?

701. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Commerce:

I refer to the National Construction Codes 2022 (NCC 2022), which each State and Territory is scheduled to adopt on 1 September 2022. In Western Australia alone, each year the NCC 2022 is delayed will result in approximately 84,000 tonnes of avoidable greenhouse gas emissions, 20,000 new homes being constructed that do not meet national energy efficiency standards and new homeowners paying an additional \$934 each in energy bills (equivalent to approximately \$16.7 million in avoidable household energy bills), and I ask:

- (a) will the Government adopt the NCC 2022 in its entirety on 1 September 2022, in line with all other States and Territories;
- (b) if no to (a):
 - (i) what aspects of the NCC 2022 are expected to be adopted on 1 September 2022, if any; and
 - (ii) what aspects of the NCC 2022 are expected to be delayed, how long for and why; and
- (c) will the Government apply a transition period to the adoption of the NCC 2022, and if so:

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- (i) how long is the transition period likely to be overall;
- (ii) what aspects of the NCC 2022 will likely be subject to a transition period and for how long; and
- (iii) what is the longest potential transition period that the Government may consider to be acceptable, noting that every day the NCC 2022 is delayed in Western Australia will result in higher household energy bills and additional tonnes of avoidable carbon emissions?

702. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to prisoner safety, and I ask:

- (a) the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services has recommended that body worn cameras be introduced in prisons across the state, why hasn't this recommendation been implemented;
- (b) when will the Government commit rolling out body worn cameras to ensure the safety of prisoners;
- (c) the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services has previously described CCTV coverage at Hakea as "rather poor with many blind spots", please provide an update on the status of CCTV coverage at Hakea Prison;
- (d) will the Government commit to implementing all recommendations made by the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services in 'Use of force against prisoners in Western Australia' by the stated timeframes; and
- (e) with respect to the recent death of Ricky Lee Cound in Hakea Prison, a young First Nations man, does the Government find it acceptable that he was placed in lockdown for weeks without proper monitoring, despite the fact he had been self-harming in the lead up to his death and in recovery from Covid-19, as reported on numerous occasions to prison officials by Mr Cound's family prior to his death?

SAM HASTINGS

Clerk of the Legislative Council