



QUESTIONS BOOKLET

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

TUESDAY, 14 MARCH 2023

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

QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

Notice Given **Tuesday, 14 February 2023**

- 1225. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1231. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1238. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport

Notice Given **Wednesday, 15 February 2023**

- 1240. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1242. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1243. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1244. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services

Notice Given **Thursday, 16 February 2023**

- 1249. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
- 1250. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
- 1254. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Community Services
- 1255. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1256. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1257. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1258. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1259. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1262. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Lands

Notice Given **Tuesday, 21 February 2023**

- 1263. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police

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Questions Awaiting Answers

- 1265. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Environment
- 1266. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1267. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General
- 1268. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Child Protection

Notice Given Wednesday, 22 February 2023

- 1269. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Finance
- 1270. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services

Notice Given Thursday, 23 February 2023

- 1271. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1272. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1273. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1274. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1276. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1277. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
- 1278. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1280. Hon Sophia Moermond to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Environment
- 1281. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1282. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1283. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1284. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1285. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Local Government
- 1286. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services

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QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

Notice Given **Tuesday, 14 March 2023**

1287. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade:

I refer to the *Report of Overseas Air Travel Undertaken by Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and Government Officers on Official Business for the three months ended 31 March 2022 and 30 June 2022*, and I ask in relation to the travel disclosed in relation to 'J Langoulant', I ask:

- (a) please breakdown the costs disclosed in relation to travel to UAE, Spain, Germany, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom, and the Netherlands by trip; and
- (b) please table the itinerary and diary of Mr Langoulant in relation to each trip?

1288. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the total number of Government social housing properties, and I ask:

- (a) to date, how many of the social housing properties in the following towns are occupied:
 - (i) Leonora;
 - (ii) Carnarvon;
 - (iii) Kununurra;
 - (iv) Port Hedland; and
 - (v) Laverton; and
- (b) for the towns in (a) to (e), how many social housing properties are vacant?

1289. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to the total number of Government social housing properties, and I ask:

- (a) to date, how many social housing properties are there in the following towns:
 - (i) Leonora;
 - (ii) Carnarvon;
 - (iii) Kununurra;
 - (iv) Port hedland; and
 - (v) Laverton; and
- (b) doe the towns in (a) to (e), how many social housing properties were there on 30 June 2017?

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Questions Asked Today**Notice Given** **Tuesday, 14 March 2023****1290. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water:**

I refer to the installation of two boom gates on Scarp Road in Waroona, and I ask:

- (a) when were the two boom gates installed;
- (b) why were the two boom gates installed;
- (c) what notification was given to residents and visitors that the gates were to be installed; and
- (d) how long will the boom gates be present?

1291. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the installation of two boom gates on Scarp Road in Waroona, and I ask:

- (a) when were the two boom gates installed;
- (b) why were the two boom gates installed;
- (c) what notification was given to residents and visitors that the gates were to be installed; and
- (d) how long will the boom gates be present?

1292. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police:

I refer to speeding infringements issued in the calendar year 2022, and I ask:

- (a) what was the total number of infringements issued;
- (b) how many were issued for speeds between 0 and 10 km per hour over the posted limit;
- (c) how many were issued for speeds between 10 and 20 km per hour over the posted limit;
- (d) how many were issued for speeds between 20 and 30 km per hour over the posted limit;
- (e) how many were issued for speeds between 30 and 40 km per hour over the posted limit; and
- (f) how many were issued for speeds more than 40 km per hour over the posted limit?

1293. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services:

(1) I refer to the Cyclone Seroja recovery grants and financial assistance and I ask, for the 'Recovery and Resilience Grants for Insured Residents' program please identify:

- (a) the total funding pool available;
- (b) the number of applications to date;
- (c) the number of approvals to date;

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- (d) total funds disbursed to date;
 - (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of approved funding by local government area; and
 - (f) the date this funding will expire?
- (2) For the 'Clean Up Assistance for Uninsured Residents' program please identify:
- (a) the total funding pool available;
 - (b) the number of applications to date;
 - (c) the number of approvals to date;
 - (d) total funds disbursed to date;
 - (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of approved funding by local government area; and
 - (f) the date this funding will expire?

1294. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

- (1) I refer to the Cyclone Seroja recovery grants and financial assistance and I ask, for the 'Primary Producer Recovery Grant' please identify:
- (a) the total funding pool available;
 - (b) the number of applications to date;
 - (c) the number of approvals to date;
 - (d) total funds disbursed to date;
 - (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of approved funding by local government area; and
 - (f) the expiry date for this funding?
- (2) For the 'Measures to Assist Primary Producers' program please identify:
- (a) the total funding pool available;
 - (b) the number of applications to date;
 - (c) the number of approvals to date;
 - (d) total funds disbursed to date;
 - (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of approved funding by local government area; and
 - (f) the expiry date for this funding?

1295. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the Cyclone Seroja recovery grants and financial assistance and I ask, for the 'Community and Recreational Clean-Up and Restoration Grants' program, please identify:

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- (a) the total funding pool available;
- (b) the number of applications to date;
- (c) the number of approvals to date;
- (d) total funds disbursed to date;
- (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of approved funding by local government area; and
- (f) when will this funding expire?

1296. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Heritage:

I refer to the Cyclone Seroja recovery grants and financial assistance and I ask, for the 'Cultural and Heritage Asset Clean-Up and Repair Grant' program please identify:

- (a) the total funding pool available;
- (b) the number of applications to date;
- (c) the number of approvals to date;
- (d) total funds disbursed to date;
- (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of approved funding by local government area; and
- (f) the expiry date for this funding?

1297. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Small Business:

I refer to the Cyclone Seroja recovery grants and financial assistance and I ask, for the 'Small Business Recovery Grant' program, please identify:

- (a) the total funding pool available;
- (b) the number of applications to date;
- (c) the number of approvals to date;
- (d) total funds disbursed to date;
- (e) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of approved funding by local government area; and
- (f) when will this funding expire?

1298. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Community Services:

- (1) I refer to the \$9 million severe tropical cyclone Seroja community welfare and outreach program. How many additional mental health staff, by FTE, have been provided to support communities impact by Cyclone Seroja through this funding allocation?
- (2) Will the Minister please identify which local government areas are currently receiving additional mental health staff through this program.?

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- (3) How much of the \$9 million has been disbursed to date?
- (4) Will the Minister please provide a breakdown of how the \$9 million program is being spent, including specific projects or programs being funded.?
- (5) Noting in the Minister's answer to question on notice 1060 that funding will expire for this project on 30 June 2023:
 - (a) what proportion of funding remains unspent;
 - (b) what funding amount will be returned to consolidated revenue after 30 June 2023;
 - (c) what funding amount will be returned to the Commonwealth after 30 June 2023; and
 - (d) what proportion of funding will be used for other purposes after 30 June 2023, and please identify these purposes.?

1299. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services:

- (1) I refer to the \$104.5 millions secured through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements for Cyclone Seroja recovery and I ask, what is the total value of this fund spent to date?
- (2) What is the total amount of unspent funding to date?
- (3) What proportion of this funding is set to expire on 30 June 2023?
- (4) What proportion of unspent funding will be returned to consolidated revenue after 30 June 2023?
- (5) What proportion of unspent funding will be returned to the Commonwealth after 30 June 2023?
- (6) What proportion of unspent funding will be used for other purposes after 30 June 2023, and please provide details?

1300. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the recent Auditor General's report, *Compliance with Mining Environmental Conditions* (audit.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Report-11_Compliance-with-Mining-Environmental-Conditions.pdf_) and the report's case study which states that: "DWER found an established operator had built a number of wastewater treatment plants over several years without approval. The operator noted that waiting for approval would have delayed operations. DWER issued a letter of warning and retrospectively approved the plants." I ask:

- (a) which company was issued with the letter of warning;
- (b) what is the location (or locations) of the wastewater treatment plants;
- (c) is the company still operating the retrospectively approved wastewater treatment plants;
- (d) why did the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) choose not to issue a financial penalty or prosecute the company;

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- (e) is DWER monitoring the wastewater treatment plants to ensure there are no further compliance failures or environmental harm and, if not, why not;
- (f) if yes to (e), have any further compliance failures been identified;
- (g) is this the first time DWER has identified companies building wastewater treatment plants without approval; and
- (h) if no to (g), where have other such instances occurred and what action did DWER take?

1301. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the recent Auditor General's report, *Compliance with Mining Environmental Conditions* (audit.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Report-11_Compliance-with-Mining-Environmental-Conditions.pdf_) and the report's case study which states that: "In April 2018, an operator asked DWER for permission to pump contaminated water from an overfull tailings dam to a storage reservoir. DWER advised that this can only be done in an emergency and must be reported immediately. Inspectors visited the mine in December 2018 and discovered it had become standard process to pump wastewater into a decoy pond intended to attract animals away from the tailings dam. DWER rated the matter high priority, but it remained unresolved at the time of audit." I ask:

- (a) which company was responsible for this high priority non-compliance;
- (b) what is the location of the tailings dam;
- (c) is the company still operating the tailings dam, storage reservoir and decoy pond;
- (d) why has the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) chosen not to issue a financial penalty or prosecute the company;
- (e) is DWER monitoring the tailings dam, storage reservoir and decoy pond to ensure there are no further compliance failures or environmental harm and, if not, why not;
- (f) if yes, to (e), have any further compliance failures been identified;
- (g) will DWER allow the company to continue to operate in breach of its approval and/or environmental conditions; and
- (h) if yes to (g), why?

1302. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the recent Auditor General's report, *Compliance with Mining Environmental Conditions* (audit.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Report-11_Compliance-with-Mining-Environmental-Conditions.pdf_) and the report's case study which states that: "In 2017 and 2018, DMIRS issued three petroleum operators with directions to decommission wells and rehabilitate sites. The directions expired without being complied with. At the time of audit, no operator had been penalised, although these cases remain open as DMIRS explores options." I ask:

- (a) which three companies were issued with the directions;

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- (b) what is the location of the non-compliant sites;
- (c) are any of the three companies still operating:
 - (i) if yes to (c), which ones;
- (d) why has the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) not taken any enforcement or prosecution action against any of the companies in relation to these compliance failures;
- (e) when will decommissioning and rehabilitation of the sites be commenced and completed;
- (f) what is the expected cost to the State Government of carrying out the required decommissioning and rehabilitation works at each of the sites;
- (g) does this case highlight the need for a pooled industry rehabilitation fund for the onshore petroleum sector, as applies to the mining sector; and
- (h) if no to (g), why not?

1303. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the recent Auditor General's report, *Compliance with Mining Environmental Conditions* (audit.wa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Report-11_Compliance-with-Mining-Environmental-Conditions.pdf) and the report's case study, which states that "DMIRS took no action on multiple breaches over 2021-22 by an established operator. Non-compliances included disturbing land outside of approved areas, improper construction of retaining walls, not burying hazardous material within 24 hours and not cleaning oil spills in a timely manner. DMIRS issued a letter of education to the operator for drilling under an expired approval and a warning for drilling in an unapproved area." I ask:

- (a) which company was issued with the letter of education and warning;
- (b) what is the location of the non-compliant site or sites;
- (c) is the company still operating at this site;
- (d) why has the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation Safety (DMIRS) not taken any financial penalty or prosecution action against the company;
- (e) has the company corrected and rehabilitated the identified non-compliances, including the improper retaining wall, exposed hazardous material and oil spills;
- (f) if yes to (e), when was this work completed; and
- (g) is DMIRS monitoring this operator to ensure it does not conduct further non-compliant and environmentally damaging activities?

1304. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water:

- (1) I refer to the media statement of the former Minister for Water on 3 June 2022 entitled 'Plan to rebalance precious groundwater resources released', and I ask:

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- (a) will the Minister please detail the water users or classes of users that will be impacted by the water allocation reduction;
 - (b) for each identified in (a), will the Minister please identify the reduction of water allocation that will be applied;
 - (c) will the Minister please identify water users or classes of users that will be exempt from reduced water allocations;
 - (d) will the Minister please breakdown the \$11.5 million support package and the source of funding for each element of the package; and
 - (e) of the \$11.5 million support package, how much has been expended to date?
- (2) I refer to the \$1.5 million allocated to assist eligible commercial Western Australian horticultural businesses and I ask how many applications have been approved to date and what proportion of funds have been disbursed to date?

Paul Grant

Acting Clerk of the Legislative Council