

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No. 77

WEDNESDAY, 22 JUNE 2022

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: -

Tuesday, 15 March 2022

386. Ms L. Mettam to the Minister for Health

Tuesday, 5 April 2022

458. Ms L. Mettam to the Minister for Health

Questions listed for this sitting: -

532. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Has the Department of Local Government reviewed how it gathers, records and reports information to maintain an up to date Local Government sector risk assessment, and if not, why not?
- (2) If Yes to (1)
 - (a) When was the review completed;
 - (b) Who conducted the review; and
 - (c) Will the Minister table a copy of the review, and if not, why not?

533. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Has the Department targeted its regulation and support activities to areas of highest risk with regard to the potential benefits to improved outcomes across the Local Government sector, and if not, why not?
- (2) If Yes to (1)
 - (a) How has the department done this;
 - (b) What are the areas of highest risk;
 - (c) What are the identified potential benefits; and
 - (d) What are the improved outcomes?

534. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Has the department clearly defined its Local Government regulation and support objectives, deliverables and targets, and if not, why not?
- (2) If Yes to (1):
 - (a) How has the department done this;
 - (b) What are the defined regulations;
 - (c) What are the support objectives;
 - (d) What are the deliverables; and
 - (e) What are the targets?

535. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) What robust performance monitoring measures has the department introduced since April 2021?
- (2) When were those measures introduced?
- (3) How were these measures communicated to staff, local governments and other key stakeholders?

536. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the government's intention to release a green bill for local government reform, and ask:

- (a) When does the Minister expect to release the green bill;
- (b) What is the purpose of the green bill;
- (c) Will there be any public input to the green bill before it is released; and
- (d) Will the green bill encompass the various reform proposed in the Local Government Reforms report?

537. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the "Local Government Reforms - Summary of Proposed Reforms" released by the Minister, and ask:

- (a) What was the extent of public input into the report; and
- (b) By what means was public input into the report attained?

538. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Housing:

For the period since 1st January 2020:

- (a) How many government homes (any housing units) have been sold;
- (b) How many homes (any housing units) have been bought;
- (c) How many government homes (any housing units) have been refurbished;
- (d) How many government homes (any housing units) have been built; and
- (e) How many additional short term crisis accommodation homes (any housing units) have been:
 - (i) built;
 - (ii) purchased; and
 - (iii) made available through other arrangements such as leasing?

539. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Energy:

I refer to power supply interruptions on Western Power's network during 2020-21, and ask:

- (a) With respect to the CBD area:
 - (i) How many customers had interruptions of fewer than 30 minutes;
 - (ii) How many customers had interruptions lasting 30 to 59 minutes;
 - (iii) How many customers had interruptions lasting 60 to 119 minutes; and
 - (iv) How many customers had interruptions lasting 120 minutes or more;
- (b) For the Perth metropolitan area excluding the CBD:
 - (i) How many customers had interruptions of fewer than 60 minutes;
 - (ii) How many customers had interruptions lasting 60 to 159 minutes; and
 - (iii) How many customers had interruptions lasting 160 minutes or more;
- (c) For Western Power's rural customers:
 - (i) How many customers had interruptions of fewer than 60 minutes;
 - (ii) How many customers had interruptions lasting 60 to 120 minutes;
 - (iii) How many customers had interruptions lasting 120 to 289 minutes; and
 - (iv) How many customers had interruptions lasting 290 to 600 minutes;
- (d) For Western Power's Perth customers, including the CBD:
 - (i) How many customers had 1 to 4 interruptions; and
 - (ii) How many customers had 5 to 8 interruptions; and
- (e) For Western Power's rural customers:
 - (i) How many customers had 1 to 5 interruptions;
 - (ii) How many customers had 6 to 10 interruptions; and
 - (iii) How many customers had 10 to 15 interruptions?

540. Dr D.J. Honey to the Minister for Water:

I refer to the Aqwest annual report for 2020-21 which shows, for the past two years, 2019-20 and 2020-21, profit before tax of \$3,782,293 and \$2,579,258 respectively, income tax payments of \$1,274,918 and \$1,184,168, and dividend payments of \$2,613,508 and \$2,110,186, and ask:

- (a) Can the Minister ascertain from Aqwest why its accounts show it paid more in income tax and dividends than the profit generated in the past two years;
- (b) Can the Minister ascertain from Aqwest an explanation as to why its income tax payments are more than 30% of its bottom line profit meaning it is paying more tax than corporate tax rate requires;
- (c) If the tax and dividend payments are not correct, will the Minister take action to have Treasury refund any erroneous over payment, and if not, why not; and
- (d) Why is Aqwest receiving operating subsidies when it is a profitable business without an obvious need for financial assistance?

KIRSTEN M. ROBINSON
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
