

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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## QUESTIONS

**No. 7**

**Tuesday, 2 December 2008**

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Questions appear according to the date on which notice was delivered.  
When a question has been answered it is removed from the postponed list.

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## POSTPONED QUESTIONS

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***Notice Given***                      ***Tuesday, 11 November 2008***

1. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health
2. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Disability Services
3. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
4. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Community Services
5. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
6. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
7. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
8. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
9. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
10. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
11. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Disability Services
12. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation
13. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation

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- 14. Hon Ken Travers to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation
- 16. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health
- 18. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Local Government

***Notice Given***                      ***Thursday, 13 November 2008***

- 19. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health

***Notice Given***                      ***Tuesday, 25 November 2008***

- 20. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
- 21. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
- 22. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
- 23. Hon Sue Ellery to the Minister for Child Protection
- 24. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Energy
- 25. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Regional Development
- 26. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
- 27. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
- 28. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
- 29. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Energy
- 30. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Energy
- 31. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Energy
- 32. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Energy
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- 37. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Energy
- 38. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Energy
- 39. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Education
- 40. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Transport
- 41. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Transport
- 42. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
- 43. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
- 44. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water

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45. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
46. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
47. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
48. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
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71. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
72. Hon Kim Chance to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
73. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Police

***Notice Given******Wednesday, 26 November 2008***

74. Hon Anthony Fels to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food

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75. Hon George Cash to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
76. Hon Jon Ford to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Commerce
77. Hon Jon Ford to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
78. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Environment
79. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food
80. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
81. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Fisheries
82. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Electoral Affairs
83. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport
84. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Disability Services
85. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy
86. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Training
87. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
88. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Community Services
89. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
90. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Environment
91. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Youth
92. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
93. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for State Development
94. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Deputy Premier
95. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health
96. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
97. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
98. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Lands
99. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development
100. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport
101. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Education
102. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism

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**Postponed Questions**

103. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Women's Interests
104. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Treasurer
105. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Commerce
106. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Science and Innovation
107. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Housing and Works
108. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Police
109. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Emergency Services
110. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Road Safety
111. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation
112. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
113. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Health
114. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Planning
115. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts
116. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Attorney General
117. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Corrective Services
118. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
119. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health
120. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Local Government
121. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Heritage
122. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
123. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food
124. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Forestry
125. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Education
126. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
127. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Fisheries

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128. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Electoral Affairs
129. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport
130. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Disability Services
131. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy
132. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Training
133. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection
134. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Community Services
135. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Seniors and Volunteering
136. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Environment
137. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Youth
138. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
139. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for State Development
140. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Deputy Premier
141. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health
142. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Indigenous Affairs
143. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
144. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Lands
145. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development
146. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport
147. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Education
148. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Tourism
149. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Women's Interests
150. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Treasurer
151. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Commerce
152. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Science and Innovation
153. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Housing and Works
154. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Police

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- 155. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Emergency Services
- 156. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Road Safety
- 157. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation
- 158. Hon Sally Talbot to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming
- 159. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Health
- 160. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Planning
- 161. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Culture and the Arts
- 162. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Attorney General
- 163. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 164. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Water
- 165. Hon Sally Talbot to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health
- 166. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Local Government
- 167. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Heritage
- 168. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
- 169. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food
- 170. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Forestry
- 171. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister Assisting the Minister for Education
- 172. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Lands
- 173. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Lands
- 174. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 175. Hon Adele Farina to the Minister for Transport
- 176. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Treasurer
- 177. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development

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- 178. Hon Shelley Archer to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Corrective Services

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- 179. Hon Adele Farina to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Police
- 180. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Lands



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**QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY**

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*Notice given*                      *Tuesday, 2 December 2008*

181. Hon Adele Farina to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Treasurer

I refer to the Busselton Jetty restoration project, and ask -

- (1) Can the Treasurer state how much it will cost to maintain the Busselton Jetty in a 'like new' condition for the next 50 years?
- (2) Does the Treasurer believe that the Government's funding proposal provides sufficient funds to enable the Shire of Busselton to maintain the Jetty in a 'like new' condition for the next 50 years?
- (3) If yes to (2), can the Treasurer provide financial analysis to support his view?
- (4) If no to (2), can the Treasurer state what will be the shortfall to be funded by the Shire of Busselton over the next 50 years, the shortfall being the difference between the Jetty maintenance cost (for the next 50 years) and the surplus from the Jetty operations (for the next 50 years), which is to be directed towards Jetty maintenance?

182. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Fisheries

It has come to my attention that a significant number of commercial fishers may be operating on limited entry commercial fishery licenses that have not been paid, and I ask -

- (1) How many commercial fishers were holding or operating on unpaid fishery licenses as of 30 November 2008, and please provide names of licence holders, areas covered and amounts owed?
- (2) Which licence holders had their fees waived between 1 July 2007 and 30 November 2008, and please provide details as to the area of the licence and the amount waived in each case, including recurrent fee waivers?
- (3) What operational policy guides the decision about fee waiver?
- (4) What are the conditions for a fee waiver?
- (5) Who usually makes the decision to waive unpaid fees?
- (6) How is such waiver reported?

183. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Environment

I refer to the Water Corporation's trial biosolids storage facility at Annandale Farm, and ask -

- (1) Where will the biosolids be spread?
- (2) Does the Department consider the quality of roads to be used for cartage sufficient to avoid a spill during transport of the biosolids?
- (3) If no to (2), how will this issue be addressed?

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- (4) What is the maximum slope upon which the biosolids will be permitted to be spread?
- (5) How will contamination of creeks, tributaries and Moore River be prevented, including in the event of a cyclonic summer rainstorm?
- (6) How will a stable-fly outbreak be prevented?
- (7) How will potential odour be addressed?
- (8) What research supports the Department's decisions in respect of the answers to questions (4), (5), (6) and (7)?
- (9) What will the effect of the facility be on local wildlife including the Carnaby Cockatoo?
- (10) What research supports the answer to (9)?
- (11) What conditions is the Department likely to impose in respect of the facility?
- (12) Have there been any incidents of non-compliance by a user of biosolids in 2007 and 2008?
- (13) If yes to (12), -
  - (a) how many;
  - (b) what was the nature of each incident of non-compliance; and
  - (c) what action did the Department take in respect of each incident of non-compliance?

184. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Child Protection

I refer to the income quarantining trials and ask -

- (1) Given the Cannington area is the trial area for both the income quarantining trial and the School Requirements Bill truancy trial, how will the Minister differentiate between the impacts of each trial to evaluate the effectiveness of the income quarantining trial in achieving the agreed outcomes?
- (2) What specific data is the Minister compiling in respect of (1)?
- (3) How much funding has been committed by the Minister to an information campaign regarding the income quarantining trials and their possible impact so all potentially affected parents are aware of and fully comprehend their responsibilities?
- (4) What additional resources has the Department for Child Protection been given to support the income quarantining trials which commenced in the Kimberley and Cannington areas on 24 November?
- (5) What level of services to support the income quarantining trials was committed to and what outcomes for the trials were agreed to under the bilateral agreement signed with the Commonwealth Government?

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185. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Education

I refer to the school attendance trial, and ask -

- (1) Is it true that the Western Australian Government was consulted by the Commonwealth Government regarding the selection of the trial areas and that the West Australian Government advocated the Cannington region?
- (2) On what basis was the Cannington School zone selected for the trial?
- (3) What is the attendance rate for the Cannington area and how does it compare to the State average?
- (4) Have the schools which are to be part of the School Requirements Bill truancy trial been determined yet?
- (5) If yes to (4), which schools are they?
- (6) When will the school attendance trial commence?
- (7) Did the Western Australian Government specifically request that the Commonwealth Government roll-out these trials within Western Australia and put in place legislation to support them, or did the Western Australian Government respond to a request from the Western Australian Government that they support a trial within the State initiated by the Commonwealth?
- (8) Does the Minister believe that existing State legislation addressing the issue of truancy is inadequate?
- (9) Does the Minister believe that the State lacks the powers it needs to address the issue of truancy without Commonwealth intervention?
- (10) Does the Minister believe that she does not have sufficient resources to be able to implement existing State legislation effectively?
- (11) If yes to (10), is the Minister aware of the evidence presented by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to the Senate Inquiry into the Schooling Requirements Bill that indicated that it is only providing the legislative and administrative framework to implement the truancy trial, and it considers that it is the responsibility of the State Government to provide the programs and services to support families adversely affected by these provisions?
- (12) What support services and programs are currently available to all parents in Western Australia who are seeking assistance and support with children at risk of truancy?
- (13) In respect of the answer to (12) -
  - (a) are these preventative programs and/or crisis support programs;
  - (b) how many children and families are assisted;
  - (c) what is the level of unmet need; and
  - (d) are there specific programs and services available within the Cannington region?

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- (14) What additional support is the Department providing to those schools directly affected by these trials?
  - (15) In respect of the answer to (14) -
    - (a) what additional resources are available;
    - (b) how many additional staff are available; and
    - (c) how many of these staff are based in, or regularly attending these schools?
  - (16) Given the Cannington area is the trial area for both the income quarantining trial and the School Requirements Bill truancy trial, how will the Minister differentiate between the impacts of each trial to evaluate the effectiveness of the school attendance trial in achieving the agreed outcomes?
  - (17) What specific data is the Minister compiling in respect of (16)?
  - (18) How much funding has been committed by the Minister to an information campaign regarding the school attendance trial and its possible impact, so all potentially affected parents are aware of and fully comprehend their responsibilities?
  - (19) Have school principals, teachers and the State Schoolteachers Union been consulted about the additional responsibilities this trial will place on teachers such as contacting parents of truant children, providing support and advice to them, and reporting non-compliance?
  - (20) What data does the Minister have of the relative contribution to truancy rates of family income source and level?
  - (21) In the view of the Minister does this data provide a basis for specifically targeting truancy initiatives to only those families on income support?
  - (22) How will the trial interact with existing State truancy policy?
  - (23) Is the Department responsible for determining the guidelines as to what is considered satisfactory or unsatisfactory levels of attendance?
  - (24) If yes to (23) -
    - (a) what are these guidelines; and
    - (b) when will they be publicly available?
186. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Agriculture and Food
- (1) Is the Minister for Agriculture and Food aware of a report titled 'Biological effects of transgenic maize NK603/MON810 fed in long term reproduction studies in mice', published 11 November 2008, by Dr. A Velimirov, Dr. C Binter and Dr. J Zentek, sometimes referred to as 'The Austrian Study'?
  - (2) If no to (1), will the Minister seek advice on the report given its significance as a scientific work that details the trans-generational effect of animals eating GM corn?

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- (3) If the Minister is aware of the report, has the view been formed that the report does provide scientific data on the effect of trans-generational consumption of GM corn that was previously not available?
- (4) Has the Minister formed the view, from the advice he has received on the report, that the report deals with 'trans-generational' effects of GM food consumption and, for that reason, addresses quite different issues than animal feeding trials that have previously measured 'multi-generational' effects of GM food consumption?
- (5) Has the Minister formed a view, derived from the report, that its authors have demonstrated that in the trial they conducted the subject animals that consumed GM food had deleterious reproductive and health effects by comparison with control animals that had not consumed GM food?
- (6) Has the Minister formed the view that the report demonstrates that animals fed with GM food during the trial, had, by comparison with control animals which were fed non-GM food, -
  - (a) fewer and smaller litters;
  - (b) reduced fertility over three to four generations; and
  - (c) greater pup mortality?
- (7) Is the Minister aware that the report was commissioned by the Austrian Government as a result of that Government's belief that there was insufficient scientific information available on the trans-generational reproductive effects of consumption of GM derived food?
- (8) Does the Minister plan to take any action as a result of the matters disclosed in the report?
- (9) If yes to (8), what action does he propose to take?

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

I refer to the Waste Control chemical fire in Bellevue, and ask -

- (1) What is the status of the Bellevue fire health monitoring and surveillance register established in 2001 following the Waste Control fire disaster?
- (2) Has the Department of Health undertaken any analysis of the long term impacts to human health in the Bellevue community from the Waste Control chemical fire?
- (3) If yes to (2), will the Minister please table the analysis?
- (4) If no to (2), why not?

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

I refer to the Environmental Health Foundation, and ask -

- (1) Is the review of the Environmental Health Foundation undertaken in March of this year complete?
- (2) If yes to (1), what are the results and/or recommendations of this review?
- (3) Will the Minister table the review documents?

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- (4) If no to (3), why not?
- (5) Has the Environmental Health Foundation finalised their report, commissioned in October 2006, to undertake an international literature review on the current knowledge of emissions from brickworks and their potential health impacts?
- (6) If no to (5), why not?
- (7) If yes to (5), will the Minister please table this report?

189. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Transport representing the Attorney General

Regarding complaints made to the Legal Practice Board and the Legal Practitioner Complaints Committee, I ask -

- (1) How many complaints were made in 2007 - 2008?
- (2) How many complaints related to, -
  - (a) delay or neglect;
  - (b) acting without or failing to follow instruction;
  - (c) failure or lack of communication;
  - (d) dishonesty or misleading conduct;
  - (e) disclosure about costs and charges;
  - (f) conflict of interest; and
  - (g) confidentiality breach?
- (3) How many complaints, if any, were made about lawyers illegally hiding documents?
- (4) What was the average time taken for the Commission to resolve complaints?
- (5) What were the outcomes of all complaints in 2007-2008?
- (6) What advice and information regarding further options is given to complainants who are not satisfied with the outcome of their complaint?
- (7) How many complaints were received about the performance of the Legal Practice Board and the Legal Practitioners Complaints Committee itself?
- (8) How many requests were received for a review of a particular decision?
- (9) Does the Minister consider additional training with regard to conflict of interest to be needed within the legal profession?
- (10) When will the Annual Report 2007-2008 of the Legal Practice Board be available?

190. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Energy

- (1) Can the Minister provide an estimate of the average annual household electricity consumption in kWh in Western Australia, in the case of, -

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- (a) residential customers of Horizon Power; and
    - (b) residential customers of Synergy?
  - (2) Does the Minister have available comparative electricity consumption figures for other Australian States and Territories?
  - (3) If yes to (2), can the Minister table the figures?
  - (4) Can the Minister provide a breakdown of residential electricity demand in Western Australia according to numbers of residential customers consuming, -
    - (a) 0-5 kWh per day;
    - (b) 6-10 kWh per day;
    - (c) 11-15 kWh per day;
    - (d) 16-20 kWh per day;
    - (e) 21-25 kWh per day;
    - (f) 26-30 kWh per day; and
    - (g) 31 and above kWh per day?
191. Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Child Protection representing the Minister for Forestry
- (1) Is the Government going to create new conservation reserves to include high conservation value tuarts with respect to -
    - (a) the northern-most woodland of large tuart trees at Southern Beekeepers in Dandaragan;
    - (b) river system tuarts at Moore River Point and tuarts on Gingin Brook Road;
    - (c) over 2 000 hectares containing high conservation value tuarts to be added to the Yanchep National Park;
    - (d) over 1 000 hectares containing high conservation value tuarts to be added to the Neerabup National Park;
    - (e) over 2 000 hectares containing high conservation value tuarts to be added to the Yalgorup National Park;
    - (f) over 100 hectares containing high conservation value tuarts to be added to the Ludlow Tuart Forest National Park;
    - (g) 'The Maidens', 267 hectares of South Bunbury coastal tuart; and
    - (h) Eastern Harvey River tuart type at Harvey River?
  - (2) Which of these areas have been gazetted as National Park?
  - (3) Which of the areas have been gazetted as conservation reserve?
  - (4) If any of the areas listed above have not been gazetted as either National Park or conservation area, what is the reason in each case for this?

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*Notice given*                      *Tuesday, 2 December 2008*

192.     Hon Paul Llewellyn to the Minister for Environment

Will the Minister please provide the official position of the Department of Environment and Conservation on -

- (a)     the hypothesis that the Noongars burnt the jarrah forest every three to five years; and
- (b)     the technique used to construct this fire history, namely the dark bands on the stems of grasstrees (balga)?

**MALCOLM PEACOCK**

Clerk of the Legislative Council