



QUESTIONS BOOKLET

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 24 MARCH 2022

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

QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

Notice Given **Thursday, 17 February 2022**

539. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Forestry (*SO108(2) response due 7 April 2022*)
540. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Forestry (*SO108(2) response due 7 April 2022*)

Notice Given **Tuesday, 22 February 2022**

555. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health (*SO108(2) response due 7 April 2022*)

Notice Given **Tuesday, 15 March 2022**

569. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police
570. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services
571. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services
572. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
573. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
574. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
575. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Environment
576. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Environment
577. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Agriculture and Food
578. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
579. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport

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Questions Awaiting Answers

580. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport; Planning; Ports
581. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health; Mental Health
582. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
583. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Education and Training
584. Hon Dr Brian Walker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Electoral Affairs
585. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport; Planning; Ports
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
589. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government
590. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government
591. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Agriculture and Food
592. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Treasurer
593. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
594. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Education and Training
595. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal-State Relations
596. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Deputy Premier; Minister for Tourism; Commerce; Science
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
600. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs

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Questions Awaiting Answers

601. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police; Road Safety; Defence Industry; Veterans Issues
602. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Corrective Services; Industrial Relations
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
606. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Water; Forestry; Youth
607. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health; Mental Health
608. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government
609. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Disability Services; Small Business; Fisheries; Seniors and Ageing
610. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Environment; Climate Action
611. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
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613. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
614. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Industrial Relations
615. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection
616. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Environment

Notice Given Wednesday, 16 March 2022

617. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
618. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
619. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

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Questions Awaiting Answers

- 620. Hon Neil Thomson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
- 621. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Innovation and ICT
- 622. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 623. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 624. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 625. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health

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- 626. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Finance
- 627. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
- 628. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Medical Research

Notice Given Tuesday, 22 March 2022

- 629. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
- 630. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
- 631. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
- 632. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
- 633. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Education and Training
- 634. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services
- 635. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Community Services
- 636. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 637. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General
- 638. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General
- 639. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General

Notice Given Wednesday, 23 March 2022

- 640. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General
- 641. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Environment; Climate Action

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QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

Notice Given **Thursday, 24 March 2022**

642. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the *Freedom of Information Amendment Regulations 2022*, and I ask:

- (a) what was the catalyst for bringing about these amendments to the regulations;
- (b) who was consulted prior to these amendment regulations being finalised;
- (c) did any person consulted raise any concerns;
- (d) if yes to (c), what were these concerns;
- (e) have the finalised amendment regulations addressed these concerns; and
- (f) if no to (e), why not?

643. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Energy:

- (1) I refer to Synergy increasingly issuing bills to customers with an estimated meter reading citing a shortage of meter readers, and I ask is there a shortage of meter readers in Western Australia?
- (2) If yes to (1), how many positions by FTE are currently vacant or understaffed?
- (3) Since 1 January 2022, how many Synergy customers have received an estimated bill arising from a lack of meter readers?
- (4) When is it expected that the shortage of meter readers will be resolved?

644. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Energy:

I refer to recent Synergy bills issued, stating that from 1 March 2022, merchant service fees will be charged for all card payments, and I ask:

- (a) was Ministerial approval sought and given for the application of merchant fee cost recovery;
- (b) what are the applicable merchant fee rates from 1 March 2022;
- (c) what were the applicable merchant fee rates prior to 1 March 2022;
- (d) what is the expected revenue from merchant fee cost recovery to Synergy; and
- (e) did Government contemplate delaying such a decision given the rising cost of living pressures and the likelihood customers may become more reliant on credit cards to settle essential bills such as these?

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Questions Asked Today

Notice Given **Thursday, 24 March 2022**

645. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Energy:

- (1) I refer to the media statement issued on 31 January 2022 titled "Christmas 2021 power outage review begins" and Legislative Council question without notice 46, asked on 16 February 2022, and I ask:
 - (a) on what date did the Minister receive the report of the independent review mentioned in the statement?
- (2) How many South West Interconnected System customers experienced an outage between 24 and 28 December 2021 and therefore fall within scope of the review?
- (3) Of those identified in (2), how many customers were located in:
 - (a) a metropolitan region; and
 - (b) a region outside of the metropolitan region?
- (4) Of those identified in (2), please provide a breakdown of customers by locality or suburb?
- (5) Of those identified in (2), how many customers are eligible for an extended outage payment by locality or suburb?
- (6) What was the cost of the independent review?
- (7) I note paragraph 6 of the review terms of reference that suggests the Minister for Energy would outline to the Western Power Chair his expectations in relation to the review and I ask that any correspondence between the Minister and the Chair be tabled?
- (8) Did review chair, Michelle Shepherd, receive full co-operation from Western Power in relation to the conduct of the review?
- (9) If no to (8), what information was withheld from Ms Shepherd and what impact did that have on the review?

646. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) I refer to a media statement by the former Minister for Health on 7 September 2021 announcing a \$1.5 million investment in ten touchless hand sanitiser units, and I ask for the Minister to please table the following documents relating to the market led proposal:
 - (a) concept submission;
 - (b) business case;
 - (c) business case evaluation; and
 - (d) contract executed?
- (2) Now that the six-month trial has concluded, what is the result of the trial?
- (3) Please table any review of the trial that has been provided to the Minister?
- (4) At what locations and for what periods of time was each of the ten sanitiser units located?
- (5) Of those identified in (4), what quantity of hand sanitiser was consumed by each unit during the trial period?

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- (6) Has the State Government agreed to extend the trial or the funding beyond the initial six months?
- (7) If yes to (6), please provide details of any extension?
- (8) What brand of hand sanitiser was utilised during the trial and how was it ensured that the product used was safe and effective?

647. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) I refer to the fabric 'Roll Up For WA' masks often worn by the Premier and other public officials, and I ask:
 - (a) which agency procured these masks?
- (2) How many masks were procured?
- (3) What was the total cost of the procurement?
- (4) Who was the supplier of the masks and what was the country of their manufacture?
- (5) What procurement process was utilised to supply the masks?
- (6) How have the masks been distributed and to whom have they been distributed?
- (7) Noting the deficiencies of fabric masks outlined on the 'Healthy WA' website, why has the State Government procured such masks?

648. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General:

In each of the last 4 calendar years:

- (a) what is the total value of fines registered under the *Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994*;
- (b) what is the total value of registered fines that have been registered but not paid;
- (c) how many people have incurred a fine that has been registered under the *Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994*;
- (d) how many people have defaulted on payment of a registered fine;
- (e) further to (c), how many of those people were young people;
- (f) further to (d), how many of those people were young people;
- (g) how many people have been subject to a garnishee order;
- (h) how much money has been recovered via garnishee orders;
- (i) how many people have been issued with a licence suspension; and
- (j) how many people whose last known address is in a remote area have been issued with a licence suspension?

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Notice Given **Thursday, 24 March 2022**

649. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the disturbing case of Macie and Lee, in which the Department of Communities placed a vulnerable young girl, Macie, with a known sexual abuser, Lee, in a residential care home, leading to Macie being abused by Lee, and the subsequent report from the Commissioner for Children and Young People's *Independent Review Into The Department Of Communities' Policies And Practices Into The Placement Of Children With Harmful Sexual Behaviours In Residential Care Settings*, tabled on 15 September 2021, and I ask:

- (a) Is the Minister aware that the review report states "the decision not to move Macie or Lee from their shared placement was likely indicative of a broader and ongoing departmental issue regarding a lack of suitable temporary and long term care placements for vulnerable children and young people and/or children who pose a risk to others, and for children and young people in general. Information provided to the Review showed that family, foster care and residential care placements are all limited and insufficient";
- (b) have any additional family, foster and/or residential care placements been secured since this report was released;
- (c) if yes to (b), how many and in which category; and
- (d) if no to (b), why not?

650. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the Commissioner for Children and Young People's *Independent Review Into The Department Of Communities' Policies And Practices Into The Placement Of Children With Harmful Sexual Behaviours In Residential Care Settings*, tabled on 15 September 2021, noting on page 30-32 it sets out that for residential care placements, the Department has a placement capacity of 117, with 91 residents, whereas funded Community Service Organisations are overflowing, having a placement capacity of 225 with 284 residents, and I ask:

- (a) why is this the case;
- (b) has the number of funded places for community sector organisations been increased to meet demand; and
- (c) if no to (b), why not?

SAM HASTINGS

Acting Clerk of the Legislative Council