



QUESTIONS BOOKLET

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2023

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

QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

Notice Given **Tuesday, 10 October 2023**

1675. Hon Steve Martin to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
(SO108(2) response due 13 February 2024)

Notice Given **Wednesday, 18 October 2023**

1712. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Racing and Gaming
(SO108(2) response due 30 November 2023)

1713. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Racing and Gaming
(SO108(2) response due 30 November 2023)

1715. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Water (SO108(2)
response due 30 November 2023)

Notice Given **Thursday, 19 October 2023**

1723. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment
(SO108(2) response due 30 November 2023)

Notice Given **Tuesday, 7 November 2023**

1735. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General

1736. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Emergency Services

1737. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Forestry

1738. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Finance

1739. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister
for Transport

1740. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister
for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade

Notice Given **Thursday, 9 November 2023**

1741. Hon Steve Martin to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General

1742. Hon Colin de Grussa to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Ports

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Questions Awaiting Answers

1744. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
1745. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
1746. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Commerce
1747. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Commerce
1748. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing

Notice Given **Tuesday, 14 November 2023**

1749. Hon Dr Brian Walker to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General

Notice Given **Wednesday, 15 November 2023**

1750. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Energy
1751. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade
1752. Hon Louise Kingston to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police

Notice Given **Thursday, 16 November 2023**

1753. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
1754. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
1755. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Commerce
1756. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Commerce

Notice Given **Tuesday, 28 November 2023**

1757. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport
1758. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport
1759. Hon Neil Thomson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
1760. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
1761. Hon Neil Thomson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
1762. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing

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Questions Awaiting Answers

- 1763. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police
- 1764. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police
- 1765. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing

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QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

Notice Given **Wednesday, 29 November 2023**

1766. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General:

I refer to non-essential medical interventions, including surgical and hormonal procedures, that children at Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) are still subjected to without their personal, informed consent. These procedures are often harmful and can leave children to grow up feeling as if they fit into the body that medicine assigned them. Children with intersex variations may have their gonads removed that were safely and effectively producing hormones and then subsequently be required to undergo Hormone Replacement Therapy as a young adult so they can develop. Some children have their genitals 'normalised' to make them fit into the body that medicine assigned them and these procedures are not reversible. These interventions can have lifelong consequences including trauma, shame, scarring, loss of sexual function, loss of sensation and infertility. I also refer to the passing of the Variations in Sex Characteristics (Restricted Medical Treatment) Bill in the Australian Capital Territory in June 2023 and to similar reforms that are now being considered in Victoria, and I ask:

- (a) is the Attorney General currently considering and legal reforms in Western Australia to protect the human rights and choices of people with innate variations of sex characteristics in medical settings;
- (b) if yes, please outline how the Attorney General plans to protect the human rights and choices of intersex people in medical settings in Western Australia;
- (c) if no to (a), why not;
- (d) will the Attorney General commit to ending deferrable treatments on intersex people's sex characteristics until they are old enough to participate meaningfully in those decisions;
- (e) if no to (d), why not;
- (f) what actions are being taken to change the *Criminal Code Amendment Act* to protect children with innate variations in sex characteristics from medical interventions without their personal, informed consent;
- (g) if no to (f), why not;
- (h) what actions are being taken to change the *Equal Opportunity Act* to protect children with innate variations in sex characteristics from medical interventions without their personal, informed consent;
- (i) if no to (h), why not;
- (j) what actions are being taken to change the *Gender Reassignment Act* to protect children with innate variations in sex characteristics from medical interventions without their personal, informed consent;
- (k) if no to (j), why not; and

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- (l) I refer to *Health Policy 109* from the *2022 WA Labor Platform*, which states: "WA Labor supports the rights of intersex people to have agency and autonomy, including in medical settings. WA Labor will ensure effective oversight of clinical practices, and end harmful practices that modify sex characteristics of people with intersex variations without personal informed consent.":
- (i) why do children with innate variations in sex characteristics continue to be subjected to deferrable and irreversible surgeries in Western Australia;
 - (ii) what specific actions have you taken as Attorney General to protect the rights of people with variations in sex characteristics in medical settings in line with your party's own platform; and
 - (iii) if no action were taken in relation to (ii), why not?

1767. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the State Governments earlier decision to consolidate public transport fares via the 2-zone fare cap policy, and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister please provide data from the last 12 months on the take up of this policy for patrons travelling distances equivalent to 3 to 9 zones inclusive;
- (b) what has been the additional cost to the Government of implementing the policy over this period; and
- (c) how is the financial impact of the policy recorded for accounting purposes, for example, is it recorded against the public transport operating subsidy?

1768. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to non-essential medical interventions, including surgical and hormonal procedures, that children at Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) are still subjected to without their personal, informed consent. These procedures are often harmful and can leave children to grow up feeling as if they fit into the body that medicine assigned them. Children with intersex variations may have their gonads removed that were safely and effectively producing hormones and then subsequently be required to undergo Hormone Replacement Therapy as a young adult so they can develop. Some children have their genitals 'normalised' to make them fit into the body that medicine assigned them and these procedures are not reversible. These interventions can have lifelong consequences including trauma, shame, scarring, loss of sexual function, loss of sensation and infertility. I also refer to the passing of the *Variations in Sex Characteristics (Restricted Medical Treatment) Bill* in the Australian Capital Territory in June 2023 and to similar reforms that are now being considered in Victoria, and I ask:

- (a) as Health Minister, how are you progressing reforms in Western Australia to protect the human rights and choices of people with innate variations of sex characteristics in medical settings;

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- (b) please outline what work is being done by the Health Department to protect the human rights and choices of intersex people in medical settings in Western Australia;
- (c) if no specific work is being done in response to (a), or (b), why not;
- (d) will the Health Minister commit to ending deferrable treatments on intersex people's sex characteristics until they are old enough to participate meaningfully in those decisions;
- (e) if no to (d), why not;
- (f) what actions are being taken to change the *Criminal Code Amendment Act* to protect children with innate variations in sex characteristics from medical interventions without their personal, informed consent;
- (g) if no actions were taken in (f), why not;
- (h) What actions are being taken to change the *Equal Opportunity Act* to protect children with innate variations in sex characteristics from medical interventions without their personal, informed consent;
- (i) if no actions were taken in (h), why not;
- (j) what actions are being taken to change the *Gender Reassignment Act* to protect children with innate variations in sex characteristics from medical interventions without their personal, informed consent;
- (k) if no action were taken in (j), why not; and
- (l) I refer to *Health Policy 109* from the *2022 WA Labor Platform*, which states: "WA Labor supports the rights of intersex people to have agency and autonomy, including in medical settings. WA Labor will ensure effective oversight of clinical practices, and end harmful practices that modify sex characteristics of people with intersex variations without personal informed consent.":
 - (i) why do children with innate variations in sex characteristics continue to be subjected to deferrable and irreversible surgeries in Western Australia;
 - (ii) what specific actions have you taken as Health Minister to protect the rights of people with variations in sex characteristics in medical settings in line with your party's own platform; and
 - (iii) if no actions were taken in (ii), why not?

SAM HASTINGS

Clerk of the Legislative Council