



QUESTIONS BOOKLET

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 21 MARCH 2024

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

QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

Notice Given **Tuesday, 27 February 2024**

- 1858. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 1859. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 1861. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Community Services
- 1862. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Energy
- 1863. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment
- 1864. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment
- 1865. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1866. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport
- 1867. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment
- 1868. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Defence Industry
- 1869. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
- 1870. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
- 1871. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
- 1872. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
- 1873. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
- 1874. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade
- 1875. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal-State Relations

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Questions Awaiting Answers

1876. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Deputy Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Transport; Tourism
1877. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Finance; Commerce; Women's Interests
1878. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services; Innovation and the Digital Economy; Science; Medical Research; Minister assisting the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade
1879. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Culture and the Arts; Sport and Recreation; International Education; Heritage
1880. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs
1881. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police; Corrective Services; Racing and Gaming; Defence Industry; Veterans Issues
1882. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
1883. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development; Water; Industrial Relations
1884. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health; Mental Health
1885. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Planning; Lands; Housing; Homelessness
1886. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development; Disability Services; Fisheries; Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering
1887. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Energy; Environment; Climate Action
1888. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Early Childhood Education; Child Protection; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services
1889. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Ports; Road Safety; Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport
1890. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Local Government; Youth; Minister assisting the Minister for Training and Workforce Development
1891. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; Small Business
1892. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food
1893. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade
1894. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal-State Relations

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1895. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Deputy Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Transport; Tourism
1896. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Finance; Commerce; Women's Interests
1897. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services; Innovation and the Digital Economy; Science; Medical Research; Minister assisting the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade
1898. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Culture and the Arts; Sport and Recreation; International Education; Heritage
1899. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs
1900. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police; Corrective Services; Racing and Gaming; Defence Industry; Veterans Issues
1901. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
1902. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development; Water; Industrial Relations
1903. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health; Mental Health
1904. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Planning; Lands; Housing; Homelessness
1905. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development; Disability Services; Fisheries; Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering
1906. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Energy; Environment; Climate Action
1907. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Early Childhood Education; Child Protection; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services
1908. Hon Peter Collier to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Ports; Road Safety; Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport
1909. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Local Government; Youth; Minister assisting the Minister for Training and Workforce Development
1910. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; Small Business
1911. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Ports
1912. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Ports
1913. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

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Questions Awaiting Answers**Notice Given** **Wednesday, 28 February 2024**

1915. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Early Childhood Education
1916. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development
1917. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1918. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1919. Hon Donna Faragher to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Early Childhood Education
1920. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1921. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1922. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Homelessness
1923. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health

Notice Given **Thursday, 29 February 2024**

1924. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Treasurer
1925. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
1926. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1927. Hon Dr Brian Walker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1928. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1929. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Forestry
1930. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Small Business
1931. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
1932. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Local Government
1933. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health

Notice Given **Tuesday, 12 March 2024**

1934. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
1935. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment
1936. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
1937. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment
1938. Hon Ben Dawkins to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health

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Questions Awaiting Answers

1939. Hon Ben Dawkins to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General
1940. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Corrective Services
1941. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport
1942. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing

Notice Given **Wednesday, 13 March 2024**

1943. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Finance
1944. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1945. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1946. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1947. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1948. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1949. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1950. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1951. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1952. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1953. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1954. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1955. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1956. Hon Donna Faragher to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education
1957. Hon Donna Faragher to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health

Notice Given **Thursday, 14 March 2024**

1958. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Water
1959. Hon Ben Dawkins to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
1960. Hon Ben Dawkins to the Minister for Women's Interests
1961. Hon Ben Dawkins to the Minister for Emergency Services
1962. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy
1963. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport
1964. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Climate Action
1965. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Energy

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Questions Awaiting Answers**Notice Given** **Tuesday, 19 March 2024**

- 1966. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment
- 1967. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General
- 1968. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
- 1969. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Energy
- 1970. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment

Notice Given **Wednesday, 20 March 2024**

- 1971. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General
- 1972. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
- 1973. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General
- 1974. Hon Peter Collier to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health
- 1975. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport

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QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY

Notice Given **Thursday, 21 March 2024**

1976. Hon Steve Martin to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development:

I refer to the Construction Visa Subsidy program, and I ask:

- (a) how many skilled workers have entered Western Australia and began work as a result of the subsidy to date;
- (b) how many payments under the Construction Visa Subsidy program have been made to employers, to date, for:
 - (i) Milestone 1;
 - (ii) Milestone 2; and
 - (iii) Milestone 3;
- (c) how many payments under the Construction Visa Subsidy program have been made to offshore skilled migrants, to date, for:
 - (i) Milestone 1; and
 - (ii) Milestone 2;
- (d) how many payments under the Construction Visa Subsidy program have been made to onshore skilled migrants, to date, for:
 - (i) Milestone 1; and
 - (ii) Milestone 2;
- (e) what methods are being used to advertise the Construction Visa Subsidy program to the general public;
- (f) when did advertising for the program commence;
- (g) what is the total amount spent so far on advertising the Construction Visa Subsidy program;
- (h) how much in (g), has been spent on each advertising medium (TV, radio etc); and
- (i) what is the total budget intended for spending on advertising the Construction Visa Subsidy program?

1977. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the Government's 'Summer of Free Public Transport' only being offered to holders of Smart Riders, and not travellers who choose to purchase their tickets with cash, and I ask:

- (a) is a traveller using cash to purchase a ticket being discriminated against when they are declined free public transport offered to Smart Rider users;

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Questions Asked Today**Notice Given** **Thursday, 21 March 2024**

- (b) with regard to this practice, did the Minister receive legal advice regarding the legality of preventing cash paying travellers access to free public transport;
- (c) with regard to this practice, did the Department of Transport receive legal advice regarding the legality of this practice of preventing cash paying travellers access to free public transport; and
- (d) why did transit guards continue to fine passengers during the free transport period, amounting to a total of \$400,000 in fines?

1978. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Forestry:

I refer to the Minister's answer to question without notice 189, answered on 19 March 2024, in relation to forestry, and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister please provide a list of operators that have been engaged, so far this calendar year, to undertake ecological thinning;
- (b) will the Minister please provide a list of areas that have undergone thinning so far;
- (c) will the Minister please provide a list of areas that will be further thinned this calendar year;
- (d) what is the estimated amount of timber that will be available for commercial use as a result of thinning; and
- (e) have 2024 contracts been established for firewood suppliers, sawmills, and other buyers yet:
 - (i) if no to (e), when will they be established; and
 - (ii) why has/is it taking so long, given that the new Forest Management Plan began at the beginning of this year?

1979. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the *Financial Audit Results State Government 2022-23* from the Office of the Auditor General, and the unprecedented adverse controls opinion against Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, and I ask:

- (a) the Minister has indicated in answer to question without notice 191, asked on 19 March 2024, that "the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development is working with the Office of the Auditor General to address the areas of concern raised in the report". What steps are being taken, or have been taken, to address the following areas of concern:
 - (i) inadequate cash control practices;
 - (ii) significant weaknesses in general computer controls;
 - (iii) inconsistent preparation of monthly reconciliations for cash, property, plant and equipment, accounts receivable, accounts payable and payroll;
 - (iv) no bank reconciliation prepared at all for five months; and

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- (v) fraud risk presented by ability to record commercial fishing fees received, even if not received;
- (b) given the unprecedented nature of the finding and the issues identified, why has the Minister refrained from providing a public response to the Auditor General's report; and
- (c) why did the Minister not outline any specific steps taken to address the areas of concern as identified in question without notice 191?

1980. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing:

I refer to question on notice 1787, asked on 30 November 2023 and which the Minister provided an answer to on 19 March 2024, in relation to Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH) numbers, and I ask:

- (a) what data collection changes have occurred in:
 - (i) 2017; and
 - (ii) 2021;
- (b) why is "data from 2018 onward not directly comparable to years previous";
- (c) is it incorrect to conclude from the answer provided in question on notice 1787 that there were less GROH houses in total as at 30 June 2023 than as at 30 June 2017; and
- (d) if yes to (c), what other possible conclusion could be drawn?

1981. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade:

I refer to the Minister, his staffers, departmental staff and governmental representatives' meetings with the Director of Oceania Resources, Mr Dev Sindhu, on 7 November 2022 and 9 February 2023, and I ask:

- (a) during the period encompassing 10 February 2023 to 18 March 2024, has the Minister, his ministerial staff, departmental staff or any Government representative met with, or communicated with in any format, with Mr Sindhu or any Oceania Resources representatives;
- (b) if yes to (a), who engaged or attended said meetings or discussions, and on what dates and in what formats; and
- (c) if yes to (a), what records, notations, minutes, recordings, documentation of discussions and follow-up actions were compiled during the meetings, engagements or discussions?

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Questions Asked Today**Notice Given** **Thursday, 21 March 2024****1982. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing:**

I refer to Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH), and I ask, how many more GROH houses in total are there in each of the following regions as of 30 June 2023 compared to 30 June 2017:

- (a) Great Southern;
- (b) South West;
- (c) Goldfields;
- (d) Midwest/Gascoyne;
- (e) Pilbara;
- (f) West Kimberley;
- (g) Wheatbelt; and
- (h) East Kimberley?

1983. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to a Government media statement, dated 29 September 2023, entitled *New payment options for public transport one step closer*, which indicated a two-month pilot program, and I ask:

- (a) what are the results of the trial pilot program;
- (b) how many of the "around 30" new payment systems (validators) were installed, and will the Minister please table a list of the locations;
- (c) when will the new payment options, including credit cards, mobiles, and wearable devices, become available on those new payment systems;
- (d) will the new payment option will be rolled out across the full Transperth network:
 - (i) if yes to (d), when; and
 - (ii) if no to (d), why not;
- (e) if yes to (d), how much has been budgeted to launch that rollout in full; and
- (f) how much of the \$57.8 million budgeted for the modernisation project has been spent to date?

1984. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Energy:

I refer to the January power outages following a severe weather event, and I ask:

- (a) was an emergency response generator deployed to Lancelin, and if so for what purpose was it deployed;
- (b) were any of Western Power's emergency response generators deployed for the purpose of supplying power to electric vehicle charging stations; and
- (c) if yes to (b), what locations benefited from an emergency response generator for the purpose of electric vehicle charging?

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Questions Asked Today

Notice Given **Thursday, 21 March 2024**

1985. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health:

With regard to the *Mental Health Act 2014*, a referral for examination under Section 26(2) of the Act is because it is suspected that the person requires 'involuntary admission' for treatment of a mental illness. The referral requires that the five criteria contained within Section 25 are fully met to make this referral lawful. In completing the referral, the medical practitioner or authorised mental health practitioner must then sign a declaration that all of the criteria have been met, and I ask:

- (a) who is responsible for investigating a practitioner who refers someone who does not meet the criteria for a referral; and
- (b) what actions can be taken if an investigation finds the patient failed to meet the criteria for referral?

1986. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health:

With regard to the *Mental Health Act 2014*, I ask:

- (a) who is responsible for the investigation and prosecution for breaches of the Act with specific reference to:
 - (i) Section 253 - Duty not to ill-treat or willingly neglect patients;
 - (ii) Section 229 - Bodily restraint must be authorised; and
 - (iii) Section 231 - Seclusion must be authorised; and
- (b) what actions must they take in relation to each of the breaches in (a)?

SAM HASTINGS

Clerk of the Legislative Council