WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

QUESTIONS

No. 18

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17 2002

Questions appear according to the date on which notice was delivered. When a reply has been printed, the question and its answer are removed from the supplementary notice paper.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

225. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:

With regard to articles in *The West Australian* (October 12 2002) and the *Sunday Times* (October 13 2002) and a letter I wrote to all State Members of both Houses dated September 9 2002 regarding the introduction of a levy on plastic bag use -

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Federal Environment and Heritage Minister has approached the State Government to ask the National Packaging Covenant Council to develop measures to combat plastic bag waste?
- (2) Has the Minister taken any action to contact the Council in this regard?
- (3) If so, what action has been taken?
- (4) Has the Minister taken any action to investigate the introduction of a levy on plastic bags in Western Australia?
- (5) If not, why not?

226. Hon Barry House to the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

I refer to the Liquor Licensing Bulletin produced by the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor, and ask -

- (1) What is the purpose of the Bulletin?
- (2) Does the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor's website refer to it as a monthly Bulletin?
- (3) How many Bulletins have been produced this year?
- (4) What is the total cost of producing each Bulletin and what is the cost broken down by line item?
- (5) How many staff are involved in the production of the Bulletin and what amount of staff hours contribute to the production of the Bulletin?
- (6) How many copies of the Bulletin are printed for each edition produced?
- (7) Which company, if any, has the tender to print the Bulletin and what is the total cost of this printing contract?
- (8) How many Bulletins are distributed each time it is published?
- (9) What is the cost of postage to distribute the Bulletin each time it is published?
- (10) Are there any other methods of distribution of the Bulletin?
- (11) If so, how are they distributed and how many recipients are there for each distribution method?

- 227. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Deputy Premier: I refer the Deputy Premier to his press release dated September 27 in which he states, and I quote, '*The Commonwealth Native Title Act* is a 400 page obstacle course.'
- (1) In light of the Deputy Premier's recognition of the reality that the *Native Title Act* has made resolution of native title issues a very complex, expensive and drawn out process, will he give substance to his words and call on the Commonwealth Parliament to review the Act, taking into account the failure of the 1998 reforms to deliver any notable improvement and subsequent Court decisions which have raised even more legal uncertainty?
- (2) If not, why not?

- 228. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Racing and Gaming representing the Treasurer:
- (1) Was the Treasurer asked by the Health Minister or Health Department for additional funding to meet the cost of operating an MRI machine at PMH prior to January 1 2002?
- (2) If so, why was the request rejected?

- 229. Hon Norman Moore to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health:
- (1) When did the Minister first request additional funding for the purpose of operating an MRI machine at PMH?
- (2) When did the Minister finally obtain approval for such additional funding?
- (3) When does the Minister expect the MRI machine to be operating at PMH?
- (4) When does the Minister plan to establish an MRI machine at Fremantle Hospital?
- (5) When does the Minister plan to establish an MRI machine in Bunbury?

230. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Racing and Gaming representing the Attorney General:

In response to question on notice No. 906, in the Legislative Assembly, dated September 11 2001, the Attorney General indicated that the annual cost per adult prisoner was approximately \$70 000. On May 29 2002, in the Estimates Committee, the Attorney General indicated that the number of adult prisoners had fallen from some 3 200 under the previous Government to 2 765 as at that time.

Since the prisoner numbers have declined by approximately 400 under this Government, can the Attorney General explain what has happened to the expected cost saving of some \$28 million based on your cost estimates?

231. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Racing and Gaming representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services:

I refer the Minister to her press release dated October $7\,2002$ concerning the proposed emergency levy, and ask -

Does the reference to an 'additional \$18 million funding' mean budget funding in addition to the Government's current \$35 million contribution to FESA?

232. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Housing and Works:

I refer to the Minister's press release concerning the appointment of an industry construction panel, and ask -

- (1) How many people and/or companies nominated for the panel?
- (2) Who is on the panel and on what basis were they selected?
- (3) What will be the basis of remuneration for the consultancy work undertaken by panel members?

233. Hon Norman Moore to the Minister for Government Enterprises:

I refer the Minister to the Lotteries Commission grant of $$168\,000$ to Ruah Community Services to assist with the publication and sales of 'The Big Issue' magazine, and ask -

- (1) Is Ruah Community Services itself, or its ultimate owner, a foreign company?
- (2) Where is the company's head office located?
- (3) Will the Minister ensure that the Lotteries Commission looks equally favourably upon grant applications from other media organisations should they choose to use unemployed or disadvantaged people to sell their product?