

MINISTERIAL EXPERT COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL REFORM

719. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Electoral Affairs:

This question was submitted at 11.00 am, and things have moved on a little, but I will ask it as submitted. I refer to the final report of the Ministerial Expert Committee on Electoral Reform.

- (1) Has the government commenced drafting the bill that will give effect to the report's recommendations?
- (2) If yes to (1), who has assisted with the drafting process
- (3) Will the government consult with regional communities before introducing the bill?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

Hon Tjorn Sibma: Why are you laughing?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN: Because you raised the issue of when you issued this question, and as you pointed out, time has moved on. I am pointing out the irony of it.

Hon Martin Aldridge interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order, members. The parliamentary secretary will continue with his answer.

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN: Thank you, President.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Parliamentary Counsel's Office drafted the bill.
- (3) All Western Australians were consulted via the Ministerial Expert Committee on Electoral Reform, which elicited 184 submissions from across Western Australia, most of which were published online. The Attorney General announced the review and called for submissions on 30 April 2021. Submissions were open to interested members of the public on Friday, 30 April 2021. Advertising was placed into *The West Australian* on 1, 28 and 29 May 2021, calling for submissions. The committee discussion paper was published online and sent to regional news outlets on 14 May 2021. Submissions closed on 8 June 2021.