MCGOWAN GOVERNMENT — OUR PRIORITIES: SHARING PROSPERITY

5430.   Ms M.J. Davies to the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; State Development, Jobs and Trade; Federal–State Relations:

I refer to the McGowan Government's Our Priorities: Sharing Prosperity program announced in February 2019 and the key performance indicator increasing the number of employed persons in regional WA by 30,000 by 2023–24, and I ask:

(a)   Can you detail the criteria used to classify regional jobs;

(b)   How was the criteria devised;

(c)   Who devised the criteria;

(d)   When was the criteria established;

(e)   On what date did the criteria start being used to classify regional jobs;

(f)   What percentage of the 30,000 job creation target has currently been achieved; and

(g)   Can you provide a breakdown by industry and sub-sector of where new jobs have been created to date?

Mr M. McGowan replied:

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet

(a)–(g)   The Our Priorities Program is measuring jobs growth by following the changes in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Labour Force annual average of employed persons within regional areas in Western Australia. This measure was chosen as the ABS is a publicly available and verifiable dataset.

The Regional Prosperity target measures new employment for people living in regional Western Australia by aligning this ABS Labour Force data to Western Australian regional development commission boundaries.

The Regional Prosperity target is measured using the ABS Labour Force dataset, calculating the increase between 2017/18 annual average and 2023/24 annual average.

ABS Labour Force data shows an increase in regional employment from 313,894 to 324,258 over the period 2016/17 to 2018/19.

The ABS measure identifies the number of people in employment as a total and not by specific industry or individual regional location.