

TRIAL DELAYS

587. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the crisis meeting, so described by the Law Society of WA, which the Attorney General held two years ago into resolving trial delays in Western Australian courts. Can the Attorney point to whereabouts in the 2023–24 budget the government has made provision for expediting the delivery of justice in this state?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

During the 2021–22 budget process, the government approved \$493 000 for the Department of Justice to develop, for cabinet’s consideration, a feasibility study into the options for the expansion of criminal trial facilities in the Perth CBD and metropolitan area. The department continues to explore and examine options in respect of addressing the criminal courtroom availability with relevant government agencies and other key stakeholders. The current body of work is funded from resources already in existence.