

ATTORNEY GENERAL — LEGISLATIVE WORKLOAD

**1377. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:**

I refer to the Attorney General's advice of 19 September that the Parliamentary Counsel's Office was drafting 81 bills for the state government.

- (1) Have any additional bills been added to the PCO's to-do list?
- (2) To what degree is the PCO also assisting agencies in the drafting of supplementary statutory instruments, such as regulations?
- (3) What is the present level of PCO staffing?

**Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Attorney General, which I provide on behalf of the parliamentary secretary. I note that this response was current as at Tuesday, 10 October 2023.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The Parliamentary Counsel's Office provides comprehensive legislative drafting and related services to the state government and its departments and agencies. This includes preparing drafts of subsidiary legislation for ministers and government agencies so that the acts they administer can be fully implemented and properly administered.
- (3) The PCO employs 23 drafters. As a result of recent recruitment activities, the PCO has appointed a further five drafters, who have yet to commence work. Once commenced, these drafters will increase the PCO's drafting cohort to 28 drafters.