

GOVERNMENT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES — APPOINTMENTS

133. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the practices and processes of the McGowan cabinet in approving the appointment and/or reappointment of individuals to government boards and committees.

- (1) Are ministers and/or their staff permitted to directly interview a potential board appointee before making recommendations to cabinet?
- (2) If yes to (1), what specific guidelines and safeguards govern these interviews?
- (3) Are such interviews minuted; and, if not, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(3) In accordance with Premier’s Circular 2019–07, although all appointments to state government boards and committees are matters for cabinet consideration, the statutory authority for the appointment rests with the minister. The Premier’s circular provides that the level of pre-screening required for appointees should be considered in the context of the purpose and function of the board or committee. As such, whether interviews are required in order to exercise due diligence is assessed on a case-by-case basis.