

CYBERSECURITY SERVICES

**1108. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Minister for Innovation and ICT:**

I refer to the minister's media statement of 25 March 2022 titled "McGowan Government continues investment in world-class cyber security services".

- (1) What is the proposed breakdown of expenditure for the \$25.5 million allocated to expand WA's cybersecurity services?
- (2) How much has been spent to date?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

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

- (1) The breakdown of the \$25.5 million that was allocated over a four-year period from 2021–22 to 2024–25 is \$11.8 million on salaries and salary-related expenses and \$13.7 million on goods and services. The funding has been allocated to enable the Office of Digital Government to raise cybersecurity standards across the whole public sector through establishing the WA government Security Operations Centre, or SOC, which launched on 1 July 2021. SOC provides security monitoring to agencies to assist them in detecting and responding to cyber threats. To date, 51 WA public entities are connected to SOC.

Also through implementing a whole-of-sector vulnerability scanning service; establishing an uplift team to provide direct support to agencies to improve their cybersecurity maturity; establishing a hunt and incident response team to provide dedicated incident response and threat hunting services to agencies; and increasing cybersecurity strategy and policy capabilities, including agency engagement, project coordination and management of the relationship with the Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre based at Edith Cowan University.

- (2) There has been \$1.7 million spent to date. The rate of expenditure is expected to increase with a substantial number of staff now recruited and major procurements activities completed.