

CORONAVIRUS — STATE OF EMERGENCY

147. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the state of emergency first declared two years ago on 15 March 2020 under the Emergency Management Act 2005, and perpetually extended thereafter.

- (1) Are decisions to extend the declaration contingent on extensions granted to the declared public health state of emergency made under the Public Health Act 2016?
- (2) Can state of emergency declarations be made in respect of regions of Western Australia or must they be made in respect of the entire state?
- (3) Can the minister please clarify which of the present COVID-19 mandates, directions and powers, including health directions, are enabled by the state of emergency declaration?
- (4) What would be the specific public health impact of allowing the present statewide state of emergency declaration to expire on 25 March?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I do not have an answer to that question in the folder. The honourable member asked two questions: one of me and one of the Minister for Health. They were similar. I know that earlier today my office was seeking clarification on one of those questions from the Commissioner of Police, who, I am advised, was out of town today, so, obviously, the answer has not come back. I will provide it tomorrow.