

COURTS — AVAILABILITY

**74. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:**

I refer to concerns raised with the Attorney General by the Law Society of Western Australia about the availability of courtrooms for criminal trials.

- (1) Is the Attorney General aware that the Law Society has said that this is making the operation of the criminal justice system in this state almost unworkable?
- (2) Is the Attorney General aware that the Law Society has asked him to urgently commit to an additional four, but preferably seven, new courts for criminal trials in Perth?
- (3) Did the Attorney General convene a roundtable discussion in response to these concerns, as he said he would in a recent radio interview?
- (4) When did this roundtable discussion take place and who attended?
- (5) Will the Attorney General table the minutes, notes or other documents created by him or his staff at this roundtable discussion?
- (6) What action will now arise as a result of this roundtable discussion?

**Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(6) The Attorney General is aware of the Law Society’s position. A roundtable discussion with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chief Judge of the District Court and representatives from the Department of Justice and the Department of Finance is scheduled for 18 May 2021.