

DEFENCE FORCE POSTURE REVIEW — STATE GOVERNMENT INPUT

612. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry:

I note the commonwealth government's decision to conduct a Defence Force posture review and the minister's recent remarks concerning the strategic vulnerability of Western Australia, with which I mainly agree.

- (1) Will the state government formally participate in the review and how will this be done?
- (2) Which agency or agencies will be responsible for providing input into this review and which minister will bear responsibility for coordinating this work?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Defence Industry.

- (1) The McGowan government supports a strong defence presence in Western Australia and will work collaboratively with the commonwealth government's defence strategic review, which incorporates the force posture review and force structure review.
- (2) The Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation will coordinate the state's involvement with the defence strategic review in collaboration with other key agencies, including the Department of the Premier and Cabinet; the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage; the Department of Training and Workforce Development; Development WA; and the Western Australia Police Force. Hon Paul Papalia, CSC, MLA, Minister for Defence Industry; Veterans Issues will be the responsible minister.