

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 189

THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2020

1. Meeting of Council

The Council assembled at 10.00am pursuant to order.

The President, Hon Kate Doust, took the Chair.

Prayers and an Acknowledgement of Country were read.

2. Statement by President — COVID-19 Sitting Arrangements

The President made the following Statement —

Yesterday the House agreed under the Temporary Order to sit beyond 5.20pm today and to take Members' Statements at a time ordered by the Council. The Leader of the House indicated that by agreement the Council would forgo the afternoon tea recess.

Under the power granted in SO 5(2) the President may order that a suspension provided for by the Standing Orders between 4:15pm and 4:30pm not be taken. Given the agreement reached yesterday I make that order for today's sitting.

The order made yesterday omitted to provide for a dinner recess. I advise the House that I intend to leave the Chair at 6.00pm until the ringing of the Bells to continue the sitting at 7.00pm.

Ordered — That the suspension provided for in Standing Order 5(2) is dispensed with for this day's sitting. (President)

3. Papers

The following Papers were laid on the Table by —

President

Auditor General's Papers —

Controls Over Purchasing Cards (Report No. 17) (March 2020)..... 3760

Reports —

Corruption and Crime Commission — Review of an Inadequate Investigation by the
Department of Communities into Allegations of Bribery (April 2020) 3761

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development

Notices —

Financial Management Act 2006 (section 82) — Notice from the Minister for Regional
Development regarding Legislative Council Question on Notice 2390 asked by
Hon Martin Aldridge 3762

Financial Management Act 2006 (section 82) — Notice from the Minister for Regional
Development regarding Parliamentary Question 418 asked by
Hon Peter Collier..... 3763

4. Shire of Boddington — Fees and Charges 2019/2020 — Disallowance

Hon Kyle McGinn: To move on the next day of sitting —

That, pursuant to recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, the *Shire of Boddington — Fees and Charges 2019/2020* published in the *Gazette* on 14 January 2020 and tabled in the Legislative Council on 11 February 2020 under the *Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1911*, be and are hereby disallowed. (Tabled paper No. 3577).

5. Strata Titles (General) Regulations 2019 — Disallowance

Hon Kyle McGinn: To move on the next day of sitting —

That, pursuant to recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, the *Strata Titles (General) Regulations 2019* published in the *Gazette* on 31 December 2019 and tabled in the Legislative Council on 11 February 2020 under the *Strata Titles Act 1985*, be and are hereby disallowed. (Tabled paper No. 3550).

6. Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council Waste Facilities Local Law 2019 — Disallowance

Hon Kyle McGinn: To move on the next day of sitting —

That, pursuant to recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, the *Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council Waste Facilities Local Law 2019* published in the *Gazette* on 3 January 2020 and tabled in the Legislative Council on 11 February 2020 under the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*, be and is hereby disallowed. (Tabled paper No. 3539).

7. Shire of Exmouth Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2020 — Disallowance

Hon Kyle McGinn: To move on the next day of sitting —

That, pursuant to recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, the *Shire of Exmouth Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2020* published in the *Gazette* on 5 February 2020 and tabled in the Legislative Council on 11 February 2020 under the *Local Government Act 1995*, be and is hereby disallowed. (Tabled paper No. 3514).

8. Drugs and Crime in the Community

Hon Colin Tincknell: To move on the next day of sitting —

That this House expresses its concerns over the failure of the McGowan Government to combat drugs and crime in our community.

9. Business of the House

The Leader of the House advised the Council that the *Electricity Industry Amendment Bill 2019* was COVID-19 related business, and pursuant to Temporary Order (6), set maximum time limits to apply to the debate.

10. Electricity Industry Amendment Bill 2019

The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned debate on the second reading of this Bill.

Debate resumed.

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Energy tabled a letter from the Managing Director and CEO of Alinta Energy to the Minister for Energy regarding Alinta Energy support for the Pilbara electricity reforms. (Tabled Paper 3764).

Debate resumed.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave was granted to proceed forthwith to the third reading.

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Energy moved, That the Bill be read a third time.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

11. Business of the House

The Leader of the House advised the Council that the *Small Business Development Corporation Amendment Bill 2019* was COVID-19 related business, and pursuant to Temporary Order (6), set maximum time limits to apply to the debate.

12. Small Business Development Corporation Amendment Bill 2019

The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill, in Committee of the Whole House, having been read.

The President left the Chair.

In Committee

(Hon Simon O'Brien in the Chair)

Clause 5.

Debate resumed.

The Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Small Business tabled a policy manual; Investigations and Inquiry Unit dealing with complaints without merit (7 August 2019). (Tabled Paper 3765).

Debate resumed.

The Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Small Business tabled legal advice obtained in answer to a question asked by Hon Nick Goiran. (Tabled Paper 3766).

Debate resumed.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 6.

Debate ensued.

The Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister for Regional Development representing Minister for Small Business tabled the State Solicitor's legal advice relating to the Bill. (Tabled Paper 3767).

Debate resumed.

Hon Donna Faragher moved —

Page 7, line 8 — To insert after “entity”:

or under subsection (4) to the Premier and Deputy Premier

Debate ensued.

Amendment — put and passed.

Hon Diane Evers moved —

Page 7, lines 13 to 16 — To delete the lines and insert:

- (3) If a person makes written submissions in relation to a matter in a report, the Commissioner —
 - (a) must —
 - (i) amend the report to note in the report that the person has made written submissions; and
 - (ii) include the submissions with the report when the report is given to the Minister or the government entity;
 - but
 - (b) need not otherwise amend the report as a result of the submissions.

Debate ensued.

Hon Donna Faragher moved to amend the amendment as follows —

To insert after “Minister”:

Premier, Deputy Premier

Debate ensued.

Amendment to the amendment — put and passed.

Amendment, as amended, agreed to.

Hon Donna Faragher moved —

Page 7, after line 16 — To insert:

- (4) If the Commissioner investigates the Minister under section 14A(1)(b) or (ea) and prepares a report on the investigation, the Commissioner must give the report to the Premier and Deputy Premier.

Debate ensued.

Amendment — put and passed.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 7 to 13 agreed to.

Clause 14.

Debate ensued.

Hon Donna Faragher moved —

Page 10, line 9 — To insert after “2019,”:

with particular regard to Section 14BA,

Debate ensued.

Amendment — put and passed.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Title agreed to.

The President resumed the Chair.

Bill reported with amendments.

The Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Small Business moved, That the report be adopted.

Report adopted.

The Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Small Business moved, That the Bill be read a third time.

The President announced that the Deputy Chair of Committees had certified that this was a true copy of the Bill as agreed to in Committee of the Whole House and reported.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

13. Business of the House

The Leader of the House advised the Council that the *Transport (Road Passenger Services) Amendment (COVID-19 Response and Regional Assistance) Bill 2020* was COVID-19 related business, and pursuant to Temporary Order (6), set maximum time limits to apply to the debate.

14. Transport (Road Passenger Services) Amendment (COVID-19 Response and Regional Assistance) Bill 2020

The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned debate on the second reading of this Bill.

Debate ensued.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave was granted to proceed forthwith to the third reading.

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Transport moved, That the Bill be read a third time.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

15. Business of the House

The Leader of the House advised the Council that the *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Bill 2020* was COVID-19 related business, and pursuant to Temporary Order (6), set maximum time limits to apply to the debate.

16. Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Bill 2020

The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned debate on the second reading of this Bill.

Debate ensued.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General tabled a letter from the Chairman of the Royal Perth Health Human Research Ethics Committee to Emergency Medicine, Fiona Stanley Hospital, regarding a Critical Illness and Shock Study COVID-19 Sub-study (27 March 2020). (Tabled Paper 3768).

Debate resumed.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General tabled a letter from the Public Advocate to the Attorney General in relation to the *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Bill 2020*. (Tabled Paper 3769).

Debate resumed.

Question — put.

The Council divided.

Ayes (23)

Hon Ken Baston
Hon Jacqui Boydell
Hon Tim Clifford
Hon Alanna Clohesy
Hon Peter Collier
Hon Stephen Dawson
Hon Colin de Grussa
Hon Sue Ellery
Hon Diane Evers
Hon Donna Faragher
Hon Adele Farina
Hon Nick Goiran

Hon Colin Holt
Hon Kyle McGinn
Hon Michael Mischin
Hon Simon O'Brien
Hon Martin Pritchard
Hon Samantha Rowe
Hon Dr Sally Talbot
Hon Dr Steve Thomas
Hon Darren West
Hon Alison Xamon
Hon Pierre Yang (*Teller*)

Noes (4)

Hon Rick Mazza
Hon Robin Scott

Hon Aaron Stonehouse
Hon Charles Smith (*Teller*)

Question thus passed.

Bill read a second time.

The President left the Chair.

In Committee

(Hon Simon O'Brien in the Chair)

Clause 1.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 2.

Debate ensued.

Hon Michael Mischin, moved —

Page 2, lines 7 and 8 — To delete the lines and insert:

receives the Royal Assent (assent day);

- (b) section 12A — on the day after the period of 4 years beginning on the day after assent day;
- (c) the rest of the Act — on the day after assent day.

Debate ensued.

The President left the Chair at 3.29pm

The President resumed the Chair at 3.37pm

Debate resumed.

Hon Michael Mischin, by leave, withdrew his amendment.

Hon Michael Mischin moved, That consideration of Clause 2 be postponed until after consideration of New Clause 14.

Question — put and passed.

Clauses 3 and 4 agreed to.

Clause 5.

Debate ensued.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General tabled a document entitled *National Statement of Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007 updated 2018)*. (Tabled Paper 3770).

Debate resumed.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 6 agreed to.

Clause 7.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 8.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 9.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 10 agreed to.

Clause 11.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 12.

Debate ensued.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General moved, That the Deputy Chair report progress and seek to sit again at a later stage of this day's sitting.

Question — put and passed.

The President resumed the Chair.

The Deputy Chair of Committees reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the Bill, made progress, and seeks to sit again at a later stage of this day's sitting.

Ordered — That the Committee of the Whole House sit again at a later stage of this day's sitting.

17. Questions Without Notice

Questions without notice were taken.

President's Ruling

The President ruled as follows —

Yesterday, during Questions Without Notice, I asked Hon Alison Xamon to hold off on asking a question on behalf of Hon Robin Chapple whilst I sought further advice on her ability to do so.

The issue is whether the fact that Hon Robin Chapple has been given leave of absence under Standing Order 29(2) and is thereby "*excused from service in the Council*" allows him to continue to participate in proceedings of the Council by having questions asked on his behalf? Standing Order 57 sets out the actions that a Member may take on behalf of an "absent" Member:

57. Action on Behalf of an Absent Member

A Member may –

- (a) move or move to postpone an order of the day;
- (b) give a notice of motion;
- (c) move a motion;
- (d) ask a question without notice; or
- (e) present a petition,

on behalf of and with the approval of an absent Member.

Asking a question without notice and presenting a petition were additions to this list in 2012. Standing Order 57 does not expressly refer to Members who are absent because they have been granted leave of absence.

A number of actions by a Member granted leave of absence may automatically forfeit the leave. Under Standing Order 29(3), any Member having leave of absence shall forfeit the same by their attendance in the Council or at a meeting of a Committee before the expiration of such leave. Simply having another Member ask a question on your behalf during your leave of absence would not, therefore, forfeit the leave of absence.

I do not believe that any significance turns on the respective use of the terminology "*absent*" in Standing Order 57 and "*leave of absence*" in Standing Order 29. Prior to 2012, in the case of a Member giving a notice of motion on behalf of another Member the relevant terminology was that the second-mentioned Member was "*not then present*" rather than absent.

That brings us to the preconditions, if any, for being able to ask a question without notice on behalf of another Member.

There have been a series of rulings by Presidents over the years establishing that, where a Member seeks to act as a proxy for another in asking a Question Without Notice, they can do so only if the Member for whom they are acting is not physically in the Chamber at the time. For instance, on 30 June 1998, President Cash stated:

“If anyone stands in this House and says that he or she is acting for another Member who is in the House at the time, that question will not be allowed on the basis of it being out of order.”

I note, for instance, that Hon Alison Xamon had yesterday asked questions without notice on behalf of other Greens WA Members, who were temporarily absent from the Chamber, as part of informal social distancing arrangements agreed by the parties for this sitting week.

It is therefore a precondition of Standing Order 57 that the Member seeking to have their question asked by another must not be in the Chamber at the time that the question is asked – unless perhaps there is some medical reason preventing the first Member from speaking, such as laryngitis.

To artificially distinguish between being “*absent*” and taking a “*leave of absence*” is to effectively penalize the Member that has been granted leave of absence. They would be denied the benefit of Standing Order 57.

Indeed, in the Standing Orders, there is only one express prohibition against a Member relying upon Standing Order 57. Standing Order 33 relevantly states that a Member who has been suspended from the service of the Council shall be excluded from the Chamber and cannot have, amongst other things, a question asked on their behalf for the duration of the period of suspension.

Any interpretation of the Standing Orders that had the highly undesirable effect of equating a leave of absence with a period of suspension from the Council is to be avoided.

Furthermore, such an interpretation may encourage Members to refrain from seeking leave of absence until they have actually been absent for six consecutive sitting days of the House. By waiting until the last possible day to seek leave of absence, they risk inadvertently breaching Standing Order 28 and being deemed guilty of contempt of the Council.

I therefore rule that a Member who has been granted leave of absence may rely upon Standing Order 57 to request another Member to act on their behalf for various purposes, including asking a question without notice.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General, by leave, incorporated into *Hansard* an answer to a question without notice asked by Hon Peter Collier on behalf of Hon Michael Mischin.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health tabled documents in relation to healthy Western Australian locations visited by confirmed cases of COVID-19 and other statistics, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Jacqui Boyde. (Tabled Paper 3771).

The Minister for Environment tabled a works approval document, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Alison Xamon on behalf of Hon Diane Evers. (Tabled Paper 3772).

The Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister for Regional Development representing the Minister for Commerce tabled a guide to application for mediation under the Fair Trading (Retirement Villages Interim Code) Regulation 2019 in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Nick Goiran. (Tabled Paper 3773).

The Minister for Environment tabled, and by leave incorporated into *Hansard*, a document entitled *Vasse-Wonnerup Ramsar, Listed Wetlands, A year on the Vasse-Wonnerup Wetlands, An Ecological Snapshot*, in response to an answer to a question without notice asked by Hon Diane Evers. (Tabled Paper 3774).

The Minister for Environment representing the Minister for Police tabled a document entitled *Prohibition on Regional Travel Directions*, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Tjorn Sibma. (Tabled Paper 3775).

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health, by leave incorporated into *Hansard*, an answer in relation to question without notice 285, asked by Hon Robin Chapple.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health tabled, and by leave incorporated into *Hansard*, information in relation to the State of Western Australia and Serco Australia Pty Ltd, Deed of Amendment (Removed Services), in response to question without notice 150 asked by Hon Tjorn Sibma. (Tabled Paper 3776).

18. Order of Business

Ordered — That Order of the Day No. 36, *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Bill 2020*, be resumed forthwith. (Leader of the House).

19. Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Bill 2020

Resumption of consideration of this Bill in Committee of the Whole House (*see item 16 above*).

The President left the Chair.

In Committee

(Hon Adele Farina in the Chair)

Clause 12.

Debate resumed.

Clause agreed to.

New Clause 12A.

Hon Michael Mischin, moved —

Page 31, after line 25 — To insert:

12A. Section 110ZS deleted

Delete section 110ZS.

Debate ensued.

New Clause agreed to.

Clause 13 agreed to.

New Clause 14.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General, moved —

Page 32, after line 11 — To insert:

14. Schedule 5 Division 3 inserted

At the end of Schedule 5 insert:

Division 3 — Transitional provision in relation to *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Act 2020*

8. Effect of repealed s. 110ZS on continuing urgent medical research after repeal day

(1) In this clause —

amending Act means the *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Act 2020*;

continuing urgent medical research means medical research in relation to a research candidate that —

- (a) commenced before repeal day pursuant to an urgent medical research decision; and
- (b) continues on and after repeal day;

repeal day means the day on which section 12A of the amending Act comes into operation;

repealed section 110ZS means section 110ZS as repealed by section 12A of the amending Act;

urgent medical research decision means a decision before repeal day to conduct medical research in relation to a research candidate under repealed section 110ZS(1).

- (2) Until continuing urgent medical research is completed in relation to a research candidate —
 - (a) the urgent medical research decision pursuant to which the research is conducted continues to have effect as if repealed section 110ZS were not repealed; and
 - (b) Part 9E and repealed section 110ZS continue to apply to the research and urgent medical research decision as if repealed section 110ZS were not repealed.

Debate ensued.

New Clause agreed to.

Clause 2.

Hon Michael Mischin moved —

Page 2, lines 7 and 8 — To delete the lines and insert:

receives the Royal Assent (***assent day***);

- (b) sections 12A and 14 — on the day after the period of 4 years beginning on the day after assent day;
- (c) the rest of the Act — on the day after assent day.

Debate ensued.

Amendment — put and passed.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Title agreed to.

The President resumed the Chair.

Bill reported with amendments.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General, moved, That the report be adopted.

Report adopted.

The Leader of the House representing the Attorney General moved, That the Bill be read a third time.

The President announced that the Deputy Chair of Committees had certified that this was a true copy of the Bill as agreed to in Committee of the Whole House and reported.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

20. Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Bill 2020 — Referral to Committee

Hon Michael Mischin sought leave to move a motion without notice.

Leave granted.

Hon Michael Mischin moved, without notice —

That:

- (1) The *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Bill 2020* ('Bill') in the form it was agreed to by the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, be referred to the Legislation Committee.
- (2) The Committee is to inquire into the Bill and the amendments made to the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* by the *Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Medical Research) Act 2020*.
- (3) The Committee is to report by Wednesday, 25 November 2020.

Question — put and passed.

21. Emergency Management Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020

The following Message from the Legislative Assembly was reported —

Madam President

Message No. 172

The Legislative Assembly acquaints the Legislative Council that it has agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Council in the *Emergency Management Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020*.

Hon P.B. Watson

Speaker

Legislative Assembly Chamber

Perth, 2 April 2020

22. Small Business Development Corporation Amendment Bill 2019

The following Message from the Legislative Assembly was reported —

Madam President

Message No. 173

The Legislative Assembly acquaints the Legislative Council that it has agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the *Small Business Development Corporation Amendment Bill 2019*.

Ms L.L. Baker

Deputy Speaker

Legislative Assembly Chamber

Perth, 2 April 2020

23. Family Violence Legislation Reform (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020

The following Message from the Legislative Assembly was reported —

Madam President

Message No. 174

The Legislative Assembly acquaints the Legislative Council that it has agreed to the *Family Violence Legislation Reform (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020* without amendment.

Mr S.J. Price

Acting Speaker

Legislative Assembly Chamber

Perth, 2 April 2020

24. Statement by President — Update on Litigation Involving the Legislative Council

The President made the following Statement —

As foreshadowed in Reports 57 and 58 of the Procedure and Privileges Committee tabled in September and October 2019, the Legislative Council is currently involved in litigation in the Supreme Court of Western Australia.

The two actions: CIV 2716 of 2019, *Attorney General v President of the Legislative Council and Another*; and CIV 2717 of 2019, *President of the Legislative Council v Corruption and Crime Commission and Others*, are being managed together as expedited cases before a single judge of the Supreme Court.

In November 2019 the parties were ordered by the Court to undertake a facilitated settlement conference. Since December 2019 senior legal counsel for the parties have met on several occasions with the Facilitator and also outside of the court mandated process in order to identify common ground and any way forward in the context of the legal arguments raised by the respective parties.

Apart from these facilitated settlement discussions, for the last six months the parties have been occupied with many preliminary matters, such as discovery of documents and agreeing to facts not in issue between the parties to narrow the scope of the issues in dispute. On 27 February 2020, a full day interlocutory hearing was held before Justice Allanson to resolve various strike-out applications and disputed applications for discovery and further and better particulars. A decision on these matters is pending.

A hearing date has yet to be set for these two actions.

25. Members' Statements

Statements were taken.

The Minister for Environment tabled, and by leave incorporated into *Hansard*, documents in response to a question asked by Hon Michael Mischin during debate on the Emergency Management Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020. (Tabled Paper 3777).

The Minister for Environment tabled, and by leave incorporated into *Hansard*, documents in response to a question asked by Hon Tjorn Sibma during debate on the Emergency Management Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020. (Tabled Paper 3778).

Hon Alison Xamon, by leave tabled a letter from the Clinical Professor in Paediatric Infectious Diseases, University of Sydney to the Minister for Home Affairs and Assistant Ministers regarding Australian healthcare professionals call for the release of people seeking asylum and refugees from detention (24 March 2020). (Tabled Paper 3779).

26. Statement by President — Coronavirus — Legislative Council Sitting Arrangements

The President made the following Statement —

Members, just before we go, I am going to say a few things. This week has been, as has been said repeatedly, a very unusual week. The way that the legislation has been introduced and dealt with in the House would, in a normal, traditional sense, probably be anathema to all Members around the Chamber as Members of the House of Review. But in unusual circumstances, we have to do business differently. I want to acknowledge all the leaders of the parties who have this week been professional, calm and applied common sense, showing that they are indeed leaders. They have worked together collaboratively to ensure that they operate in the best interests of not just their parties, but also certainly, in the first case, the best interests of every person in our state to achieve legislation that will ensure and enhance the safety and security, both health-wise and financially, of all our constituents, families and colleagues over the next few weeks, and possibly the next few months. I also acknowledge all the Members who certainly rose to the challenge of having to do business in the Chamber differently—dealing with a quorum, having to speak at a table and not at their seat and having to function in a different way.

It has been a very interesting and challenging week, so I want to say thank you very much. It has been a very hard week, and I know that everyone is very exhausted, but I think you should be very proud of the effort. Hopefully, we will not have to do this ever again, but you never know. I also want to acknowledge the hard work of our clerks, chamber staff, and all staff in Parliament this week, because it has certainly been a different paradigm for our staff. They have had to work in very unusual ways and under enormous pressure. They have worked very long hours and I certainly applaud them and thank them for their efforts. I just wanted to put that on the record.

It has been very interesting to see how we progress this through and how in quite dire situations people can come together and step up to the plate. That really shows the character of individuals and I think you have all passed that test very well. Thank you very much. I hope that during the recess everyone keeps safe, follows all the guidelines and looks after themselves and their families and are able to continue to function. It is very important for the Parliament to continue to operate and deliver service to our community. I look forward to seeing you all on 12 May 2020 when we return.

27. Adjournment

The Council adjourned at 6.15pm until Tuesday, 12 May 2020 at 2.00pm.

Members present during the day's proceedings

Attendance: Present all Members except: Hon Martin Aldridge, Hon Robin Chapple (*leave*), Hon Jim Chown, Hon Laurie Graham, Hon Alannah MacTiernan (*leave*), Hon Tjorn Sibma, Hon Matthew Swinbourn and Hon Colin Tincknell.

NIGEL PRATT

Clerk of the Legislative Council

HON KATE DOUST MLC

President of the Legislative Council