

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question Without Notice

Tuesday, 1 June 2021

C205. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

- 1) As at the 31st of May 2021 what is the total number of separations achieved under the VTSS?
- 2) From what departments and agencies have the redundancies occurred, and in what number for each department and agency?
- 3) As at the 31st May 2021 what is the total amount paid out to employees who have separated under the VTSS? and
- 4) What is the actual net saving made by the VTSS from the implementation date of the VTSS to the end of financial year 2019-20?

Answer

The Department of Treasury advises:

(1) 2,831, with further separations anticipated relating to transition to a Commonwealth-run NDIS and machinery of government changes in the Department of Communities.

This followed 3,612 voluntary severances in the previous Liberal-National Government between March 2009 and March 2015 at a cost of \$393 million, while over the same period the number of FTEs across the public sector grew by 12,547.

(2) Table 5 on page 14 of the 2017-18 Annual Report on State Finances, tabled in the Legislative Council, details the agencies from which 2,311 separations were actioned in 2017-18.

A further 245 separations were recorded by the Department of Education and 163 separations by the Western Australia Police Force of predominately non-operational staff, in 2018-19. A total of 275 separations were finalised over 2019-20 and the 11 months to 31 May 2021 by the Department of Communities.

(3) \$340.7 million.

(4) After allowing for separation costs and savings retained by agencies, the net savings from the commencement of the Voluntary Targeted Separation Scheme in mid-2017-18 to 30 June 2020 are estimated to total \$60 million. This is because the separation costs are frontloaded. The scheme is on track to achieve net savings of \$524 million by 2022-23, as the savings occur after separations have been paid.

