SHORT-TERM RENTALS — REGISTRATION

1283.   Hon SOPHIA MOERMOND to the Minister for Commerce:

I refer to my previous question of 16 August 2023 in which I asked about the government's management of short-term rental accommodation in light of the affordable housing and homelessness crisis that is affecting our state. In reference to measures that have been taken, other than a registration system for Airbnbs, the government responded that a public education campaign was carried out in the second half of 2020 and that an interdepartmental working group was established in 2020 to collaborate on whole-of-government policy responses to short-term rentals.

(1)   How did the government measure the effectiveness of the public education campaign?

(2)   According to its monitoring system, was the campaign effective?

(3)   What were the duration of and outcomes from the interdepartmental working group?

(4)   Have any similar measures or any other measures been conducted since 2020?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

(1)–(2)   The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety developed and implemented the education campaign in collaboration with the Real Estate Institute of WA and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Information about short-term rental accommodation was distributed to the public by way of a webpage, social media, emergency information and advertising. No formal evaluation was undertaken; however, the department advises that the information to educate the public about short-term rental accommodation was distributed effectively.

(3)–(4)   The short-stay accommodation interdepartmental working group was established in February 2020 and is ongoing. The working group developed a proposed registration scheme model and undertook targeted consultation with key stakeholders to obtain feedback on the broad direction of the proposed registration model. The working group continues to work towards implementation of the register.