## Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Wednesday, 29 November 2023] p6727c-6728a

Hon Nick Goiran; Hon Matthew Swinbourn

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS — CONSIDERATION OF THE 2022–23 ANNUAL REPORTS — SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

## 1552. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the Attorney General's answers to supplementary questions provided to the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations during its current inquiry into the 2022–23 annual reports.

- (1) Does the Attorney General recall informing the committee that the 28 cases of babies who survived an abortion but subsequently died are part of 1 120 backlog cases and are specifically categorised as cases pending analysis?
- (2) Does the Attorney General recall informing the committee that these cases are not being expedited by the Coroner's Court?
- (3) Is the Attorney General aware that the previous annual report stated
  - The backlog cases are determined by reference to the date that a reportable death is reported to the coroner. When the date of that report is more than 12 months old, that case enters into backlog and becomes a priority.
- (4) Have any of these 28 cases been assigned to a coroner or do they all rest within the responsibility of the State Coroner?
- (5) What is the age of the oldest of these 28 reportable deaths that allegedly remain "a priority" in the backlog, yet inexplicably are not being expedited?

## Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Attorney General.

- (1)–(3) Yes.
- (4) They all rest within the responsibility of the State Coroner.
- (5) It is 55 months.