

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT — REPEAL

1532. Hon Neil Thomson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

I refer to the back-flip by the Government on the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act* and regulations and the costs associated with it's development, and I ask:

- (a) including the cost of community forums, how much has been spent by the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage in 2022–23 including FTE and direct expenditure; and
- (b) how much has been spent by the Department of Premier and Cabinet in 2022–23 including FTE and direct costs?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a) \$890,920 was spent on community forums across the state. Feedback from consultation and community forums has informed the Bill that passed Parliament yesterday.

Other expenditure including capacity building grants to local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services has ongoing value and therefore the question is based on a false premise. The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Council is proposed to continue to serve as a reconstituted Committee responsible for supporting approvals under an amended 1972 Act. The FTE approved in the budget is still required for the ongoing administration of the amended 1972 Act, including the survey program.

- (b) \$445,866.