

MCGOWAN GOVERNMENT — PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

**73. Mrs R.M.J. CLARKE to the Premier:**

I refer to the unprecedented step taken today by the McGowan Labor government in setting itself a range of performance indicators that will target some of the most important issues facing Western Australia.

**Mr J.E. McGrath:** We have had it.

**The SPEAKER:** You will have had it in a minute, member for South Perth.

**Mrs R.M.J. CLARKE:** Can the Premier outline to the house how these ambitious targets will drive the government and deliver real, positive outcomes for Western Australians, including a stronger economy, and more jobs and growth in the regions?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

I jumped the gun! I thank the member for Murray–Wellington for the question. When we came to government, we indicated that we were committed to driving cultural change across government and that we wanted to deliver real, positive outcomes for Western Australia—that is, creating jobs, growing the economy, driving down crime and creating better health and education outcomes for our children.

**Mr A. Krsticevic** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Carine!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** We said we would do that by setting transparent targets for government in Western Australia. We have made it clear today that we are delivering on that commitment and we have sent a message to the entire public sector about what the government's priorities are and what the long-term priorities to solve intractable problems are. As I indicated in the answer to the last question —

**Mr A. Krsticevic** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Carine, that is your last warning.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** — the Langouant inquiry indicated the importance of having a commonly understood whole-of-government vision. Under the last government there was a lot of division. The public sector did not know where the government was going, hence we had a loss of employment in Western Australia and a massive blowout in debt. The lack of a whole-of-government plan meant that policy and financial management was completely uncoordinated. A range of public servants told the Langouant inquiry that that is what had happened and they would like to see a whole-of-government strategy put in place. Today we have outlined our specific priorities and set targets for this government, and they will be measurable targets tracked on a website and publicly displayed; therefore, the government will be held to account for them. We want to make sure there are more jobs, a stronger economy, regional prosperity, better health and education outcomes for our children, a more livable city, and less crime.

We set ourselves the ambitious target of creating an additional 150 000 jobs between 1 July 2017 and 1 July 2024. As members know, we have already created more than 30 000 jobs and we have the highest participation rate in Australia. If we add the national average of the participation rate, our unemployment rate would be less than five per cent. We have enhanced confidence in Western Australia, and more people are in the jobs market as a consequence.

We have already started implementing our Plan for Jobs, as I said, with 31 000-plus additional jobs since we came into government, and annual employment growth in 2018 is at a six-year high. We have delivered strategic plans in defence, future batteries, tourism and international education. We are building Metronet, largely with commonwealth money, and we are delivering a local manufacturing strategy as part of that.

**Mr D.T. Redman** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Warren–Blackwood! It was nice and quiet yesterday!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The last government had no plan, no strategy, bankrupted the finances, and sent the economy into recession. This government is getting on with the job of fixing the mess we were left.