

COOK GOVERNMENT — 100 DAYS

680. Dr J. KRISHNAN to the Premier:

I refer to the Cook Labor government's commitment to deliver positive outcomes for Western Australians. Can the Premier outline to the house what the Cook government has done during his first 100 days as Premier to support families, create jobs and keep the community safe?

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

I thank the member for his question. Before answering the question, may I just wish both Peel Thunder and the East Fremantle Sharks all the very best with this weekend's WAFL grand final. There are two sides eager to convert their momentum from the season into silverware and I wish them both luck. May the best team win.

As we all know, Madam Speaker, momentum in government is also important. When I was sworn-in as Premier just over 100 days ago, I was eager for this WA Labor government to maintain the momentum that it has generated over the last six years. Upon being sworn in in June, I said that the role of Premier was more than a job but a life undertaking—a responsibility and a privilege—and I still maintain this view. I am happy to update the house on what the state government has delivered for the people of Western Australia. It has been a productive time; there has not been a dull moment. We started by putting Banksia Hill Detention Centre on a better pathway. Together with Minister Papalia, we announced a range of measures to enhance safety and welfare at Banksia Hill Detention Centre. At the same time, we continue to grow our frontline police force, which is seeing a real reduction in offences right across the community.

Then there was the Rockingham by-election, where we led a positive campaign to elect Magenta Marshall, a smart, capable, hardworking local woman who will make an excellent member for that seat. We saw Moody's restore WA's AAA credit rating after it was lost by the Liberal Party's and Nationals WA's reckless financial management. We are now the only state or territory with a AAA credit rating from both major international ratings agencies. We delivered on our 2021 commitment to create 125 000 jobs, and delivered it two years ahead of schedule. We confirmed the resumption of flights from Perth to Tokyo for the first time since the pandemic and secured for the first time ever direct flight connections to Vietnam. I led 130 delegates on the biggest trade mission our government has ever undertaken to Indonesia, a key trading partner for Western Australia. We continued our efforts to diversify the economy, and underscored this by a \$148 million funding injection to 40 innovative job-creating projects across the state through our signature investment attraction fund. We continued our efforts to decarbonise, awarding contracts worth over \$1 billion to build big batteries in Collie and Kwinana, and striking a \$300 billion deal to rewire our state's major electricity grids. Plus, there is our upcoming energy transition summit to hear the bold ideas that will power us into the next century.

I want to stress that we have also listened to members of the community, like victim-survivors of domestic violence.

[Interruption.]

The SPEAKER: Order, please. That is highly disorderly. I hope it does not occur again.

Mr R.H. COOK: We have formed a special domestic violence taskforce that will help guide the next steps in addressing family and domestic violence. We listened to concerns about the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and are making sensible changes. I was pleased to see this chamber pass the important reset on these laws this morning. We have also listened to the community feeling the cost-of-living pressures. We provided an electricity credit, with a minimum of \$200 credit to every household across the state in July and August, and there will be a further \$200 credit coming in the November–December billing cycle. This is along with our other measures such as free TAFE, doubling of KidSports vouchers, cheaper public transport, subsidised regional flights and more.

We have had some fun along the way and benefited the local community and our tourism and hospitality industries with major events such as the FIFA Women's World Cup and the NRL double-header at Optus Stadium, and of course there will be plenty more events in the coming months and years. Members, stay posted for exciting news in that space.

I am conscious of time, so I will not keep going. The first 100 days as Premier have gone quickly, but I lead a quality team, and we have not wasted the opportunity to maintain the momentum. We are keeping the Western Australian economy strong. We are creating local jobs and we are helping those who are doing it tough. This will be a hallmark of WA Labor government that I lead.