Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Thursday, 16 March 2023] p1061c-1061c Hon Dr Steve Thomas; Hon Kyle McGinn

GOLD CORPORATION — BOARD MINUTES

234. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to the Gold Corporation board, appointed to oversee the operations of the Perth Mint, and to question without notice 207 asked yesterday.

- (1) On how many occasions since March 2017 have Gold Corporation or Perth Mint board minutes been submitted to any part of government for review?
- (2) On what dates were they submitted?
- (3) Has any part of the McGowan government, including ministers and public servants, asked for the minutes of the board at any time since March 2017; and, if so, when?
- (4) Are the minutes available to the public; and, if so, where and how?
- (5) Which members of the government or public servants, apart from Gold Corporation staff and board members, have had access to and read the minutes since March 2017?

Hon KYLE McGINN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided by the Minister for Mines and Petroleum, which I provide on behalf of the parliamentary secretary.

The board of Gold Corporation is constituted in accordance with section 5 of the Gold Corporation Act 1987. The board performs its governance oversight functions in accordance with the act and good governance practices. Good practice for boards is for board minutes to be kept confidential to the board. Board minutes are available to the Auditor General and other proper authorities, as and if required. Minutes of government trading enterprises, such as Western Power, Synergy and Horizon Power, are likewise not shared with the minister, as this would undermine the governance oversight role of each board. The role of the minister is to represent the shareholders. As is the case with listed companies, board minutes are not provided to shareholders.

- (1) None.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3)–(5) Board minutes are confidential except when required by law. For example, board minutes are available to the Auditor General, as and if required.