



# QUESTIONS BOOKLET

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**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY, 17 MAY 2023**

Questions appear according to the date on which notice was delivered.

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## QUESTIONS AWAITING ANSWERS

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**Notice Given**                      **Thursday, 23 February 2023**

1274. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing (*SO108(2) response due 18 May 2023*)

**Notice Given**                      **Tuesday, 21 March 2023**

1312. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing (*SO108(2) response due 18 May 2023*)
1313. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing (*SO108(2) response due 18 May 2023*)
1330. Hon Steve Martin to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing (*SO108(2) response due 18 May 2023*)

**Notice Given**                      **Tuesday, 9 May 2023**

1391. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Treasurer
1392. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Public Sector Management
1393. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
1394. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Heritage
1395. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum
1396. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Energy
1397. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Planning
1398. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Ports
1399. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Training
1400. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Lands

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**Questions Awaiting Answers**

- 1401. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Regional Development
- 1402. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Environment
- 1403. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Climate Action
- 1404. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Agriculture and Food
- 1405. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Minister for Forestry
- 1406. Hon Wilson Tucker to the Leader of the House representing the Premier
- 1407. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport
- 1408. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police
- 1409. Hon Steve Martin to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
- 1410. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Lands
- 1411. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Emergency Services
- 1412. Hon Neil Thomson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
- 1413. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Finance; Commerce; Women's Interests
- 1414. Hon Neil Thomson to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1415. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Minister for Finance
- 1416. Hon Dr Steve Thomas to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Energy
- 1417. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1418. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1419. Hon Neil Thomson to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport

**Notice Given                      Wednesday, 10 May 2023**

- 1420. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade
- 1421. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services

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**Questions Awaiting Answers****Notice Given                      Thursday, 11 May 2023**

- 1422. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Tourism
- 1423. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General
- 1424. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police
- 1425. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 1426. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police

**Notice Given                      Tuesday, 16 May 2023**

- 1428. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing
- 1429. Hon James Hayward to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health
- 1430. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 1431. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 1432. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Attorney General
- 1433. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police
- 1434. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services
- 1435. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Planning

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**QUESTIONS ASKED TODAY**

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**Notice Given**                      **Wednesday, 17 May 2023****1436. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the Minister's answer to question on notice 1335, stating that \$898,840.61 was paid to businesses as part of the Denny Avenue Level Crossing Removal project, and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister please table the breakdown of those compensation payments; and
- (b) how is this a full list of compensation payments given the Ministers comments in the West Australian in relation to Bayswater Traders that a "\$5000 payment had already been made to 44 local businesses in recognition of the inevitable disruption around the major infrastructure project":
  - (i) who made the payments to the 44 local businesses;
  - (ii) who were the 44 businesses that the payments were made to;
  - (iii) will the Minister please table the criteria for eligibility for the \$5000 payment; and
  - (iv) are there similar payments across the METRONET program of works the Minister has failed to disclose in question on notice 1335?

**1437. Hon Peter Collier to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police:**

- (1) How many Family and Domestic Violence incidents were attended in:
  - (a) 2021; and
  - (b) 2022?
- (2) How many arrests were made in each year as a result of attending incidents referred to in (1)?

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**Questions Asked Today****Notice Given**      **Wednesday, 17 May 2023****1438. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services:**

I refer to the communication agreement that exists between the Minister's office and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, and I ask:

- (a) has any complaint or concern been raised with you or the Minister's office in relation to a member of your staff seeking to direct or influence an employee of the Department in the performance of their function;
- (b) if yes to (a) please identify the date and circumstance of any such instance;
- (c) If yes to (a), please identify any action that was taken to remedy the complaint or concern;
- (d) pursuant to clause 2.4 of the agreement please identify the date and subject of each of the ten most recent requests for briefing notes;
- (e) please table the ten most recent briefing notes received from the Department;
- (f) has there been any instance of the Department preparing speech notes for any Member of Parliament for an occasion in which they are not formally representing you at an official event or function;
- (g) if yes to (f), please identify the date and circumstance of each occasion;
- (h) please identify the dates in 2023 in which the Minister and Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner have formally met pursuant to clause 3.2; and
- (i) is it normal for communication agreements for 'all media inquiries' made directly to the Department to be discussed with the Minister's media adviser in the first instance?

**1439. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services:**

I refer to applications by Local Governments for assistance pursuant to Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, and I ask:

- (a) how many applications have been submitted but are yet to be approved;
- (b) how many applications have been approved but are yet to be paid;
- (c) for each instance identified in (a), please detail the following:
  - (i) the local government;
  - (ii) the activated event;
  - (iii) the amount of the claim;
  - (iv) the date on which the application was submitted; and
  - (v) the reason as to why the application remains outstanding;
- (d) for each instance identified in (b), please detail the following:
  - (i) local government;
  - (ii) the activated event;

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- (iii) the amount of the claim;
- (iv) the date on which the application was submitted; and
- (v) the reason as to why the payment remains outstanding;
- (e) what is the total quantum of funds subject to an application that is yet to be approved; and
- (f) what is the total quantum of funds subject to an application that is approved but not paid?

**1440. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services:**

I refer to question without notice 453 of 10 May 2023 in relation to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) protection for firefighters and I note that the Minister has failed to answer several aspects of the question, and I ask:

- (a) in response to media questions on 6 April, did the Minister advise the reason for the delay in implementing PTSD protection for firefighters was to allow for lessons to be learned from the application of similar protections to ambulance workers;
- (b) if yes to (a), what lessons were learned and how were they learned;
- (c) on how many occasions has the Minister or your delegate met or communicated with St John Ambulance about 'lessons learned';
- (d) on how many occasions has the Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner or his delegate met or communicated with St John Ambulance about 'lessons learned';
- (e) do volunteer firefighters have a different PTSD risk when compared with career firefighters;
- (f) why has your Government refused to protect volunteer firefighters in the same way you have afforded protection to career firefighters;
- (g) how has the Minister communicated the view of the Government in this regard to associations representing fire and emergency service volunteers; and
- (h) is the Government considering extending presumptive PTSD protections to volunteers in the future?

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**Questions Asked Today****Notice Given**                      **Wednesday, 17 May 2023****1441. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade:**

I refer to question on notice 1287, and I ask:

- (a) for each of the following expenses outlined in the response please provide an itemised breakdown of:
  - (i) \$4,796 in Other Costs between 19 and 22 June 2022;
  - (ii) \$6,116 in Other Costs between 24 and 30 June 2022; and
  - (iii) \$8,504 in Travel Costs between 24 and 30 June 2022?

**1442. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services:**

I refer to the months of January, February, and May 2023 to-date respectively, and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister please provide the following information on distinct young people held at Banksia Hill Detention Centre and Unit 18:
  - (i) age;
  - (ii) gender;
  - (iii) Aboriginality; and
  - (iv) sentenced or unsentenced?

**1443. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services:**

I refer to the months of January, February, March, April and May 2023 to-date respectively, and I ask:

- (a) what was the town or region of origin for young people held at Banksia Hill Detention Centre and Unit 18, broken down by distinct detainee?

**1444. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services:**

I refer to Banksia Hill Detention Centre (BHDC), and I ask:

- (a) how many cells normally exist at BHDC to house young people;
- (b) as of May to-date, how many cells at BHDC are currently operational and fit to safely detain young people; and
- (c) as of May to-date, how many cells at BHDC are currently offline or unsafe to detain young people?

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**Questions Asked Today****Notice Given**                      **Wednesday, 17 May 2023****1445. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Housing:**

I refer to the public housing wait list and priority housing wait list respectively, and I ask:

- (a) what was the average wait time for each list broken down by region and applicant type for the 12-month period ending in:
  - (i) 31 December 2022;
  - (ii) 30 June 2022;
  - (iii) 31 December 2021;
  - (iv) 30 June 2021;
  - (v) 31 December 2020; and
  - (vi) 30 June 2020?

**1446. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services:**

- (1) I refer to the Minister's statement of 3 May 2023 titled "Joint media statement – more support delivered to strengthen Kimberley flood recovery" which confirms 20 recovery positions will be jointly funded through the State and Federal Government to support Kimberley recovery, and I ask:
  - (a) are these 20 recovery officers in addition to the 32 recovery staff for the Kimberley announced on 5 April 2023 as part of the State's biggest ever recovery team?
- (2) what is the expected cost of funding these 20 recovery positions for the two year period?
- (3) what proportion of this cost will be borne by the State and what proportion by the Commonwealth?
- (4) what funding has been allocated to the Kimberley Floods Clean-Up Program?
- (5) how is the Kimberley Floods Clean-Up Program funded?

**1447. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Treasurer:**

- (1) I refer to the Auditor General's report titled *Financial Audit Results - State Government 2021-22 - Part 2: COVID-19 Impacts* which stated WA Health and the Department of Finance did not collaborate on the procurement of rapid antigen tests (RATs) and each conducted their own processes, and I ask:
  - (a) on what date did you first become aware of an intention to order RATs by the Department of Health; and
  - (b) on what date did you first become aware of an intention to order RATs by the Department of Finance?
- (2) why did you not act to prevent these duplicate procurement requests, which resulted in a \$580 million cost to WA taxpayers and a wasted stockpile of tens of millions of RAT testing kits?



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- (3) do you accept the findings of the Auditor General that there was no methodology behind the what was considered enough tests and that your Government purchased "too many tests, at great public cost"?
- (4) noting your comments to 6PR on 12 May 2023 that you "disagree with what the report finds" do you support the findings and recommendations of the Auditor General's report?
- (5) if no to (4), why not?

**1448. Hon Martin Aldridge to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:**

- (1) I refer to Recommendation 4 of the Office of the Auditor General's report titled *Financial Audit Results - State Government 2021-22 - Part 2: COVID-19 Impacts* which states: "WA Health needs to decide the best use for the remaining stock of RATs, including expired stock, to ensure they are appropriately destroyed or used in some way by the community or community based organisations", and I ask?
- (2) how will WA Health respond to this recommendation?
- (3) how many rapid antigen testing kits remain in the Government stockpile?
- (4) what was the cost for Health Support Services to procure eight additional warehouses for storage of these testing kits?
- (5) how many of these warehouses are still being utilised currently?
- (6) does the State Government support the findings and recommendations of the the Auditor General's report?
- (7) if no to (5), why not?
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**Paul Grant**

Acting Clerk of the Legislative Council