Mr Don Cunninghame  
Acting Auditor General  
Office of the Auditor General  
PO Box 8489  
PERTH WA 6849

Dear Mr Cunninghame

In accordance with Section 82 of the Financial Management Act 2006, I hereby give written notice to Parliament and the Auditor General that I have decided not to provide information to Parliament as requested by Hon Nick Goiran MLC in Question on Notice No. 5(9)(b) dated 11 May 2017.

The question refers to the second confidential report “Notification of Induced Abortions, 2015/16, Gestation 20 weeks or more”, which was provided by the Chief Health Officer to the previous Minister for Health in August 2016. The first report “Notification of Induced Abortions, 2014/15, Gestation 20 weeks or more” was provided by the Chief Health Officer to the previous Minister for Health in August 2015.

Revised versions of both reports were provided to the previous Minister for Health in November 2016.

The above reports are considered confidential because they contain medical information, such as diagnosis of rare conditions, for individual patients. The disclosure of such personal information increases the risk of identification of individuals. The decision not to table the reports was made in keeping with the National Health Information Standards and Statistics Committee Guidelines for the Disclosure of Secondary Use of Health Information for Statistical Reporting, Research and Analysis (2015).

I will arrange for this notice to be tabled in both Houses of Parliament no later than 10 October 2017.

Yours sincerely,

HON ROGER COOK MLA  
DEPUTY PREMIER  
MINISTER FOR HEALTH; MENTAL HEALTH  
2 2 SEP 2017 13th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, WEST PERTH WA 6005  
Telephone: +61 8 6552 6500 Facsimile: +61 8 6552 6501 Email: Minister.Cook@dpc.wa.gov.au
5. Hon Nick Goiran to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health

(1) For the calendar year, from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016, what was the number of:
(a) induced abortions;
(b) induced abortions over 12 weeks gestation;
(c) induced abortions for women under the age of 20;
(d) approvals given by the Ministerial Panel for abortions at 20 weeks gestation or later; and
(e) induced abortions at 20 weeks gestation or later?

(2) I refer to the cases of babies who show signs of life after an abortion procedure, and I ask:
(a) what is the total number of these cases between 20 May 1998 and 31 December 2016;
(b) how many of these cases were induced abortions at 20 weeks gestation or later;
(c) how many of these cases were induced abortions at 23 weeks gestation or later; and
(d) in how many of these cases was medical intervention or resuscitation provided?

(3) I refer to the Tabbott foundation which prescribes the RU486 abortion drug over the phone, and I ask:
(a) what data does the Department of Health maintain on the use of this service; and
(b) what oversight mechanisms is the Department of Health involved in or aware of for this service?

(4) I refer to question on notice No. 4219 answered on 7 September 2016, which advised of changes in documentation processes and I ask, what were those changes?

(5) How many abortions were approved at 20 weeks gestation or later with the justification for the abortion given as “Trisomy 21” between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2016?

(6) I refer to question on notice No. 4216 answered on 7 September 2016 and I ask, what method or methods of feticide were used?

(7) In the 2016 calendar year, how many hospital admissions were there for conditions related to post medical abortion complications?

(8) How many facilities perform medical abortions in Western Australia?

(9) I refer to supplementary information No. A5, provided by the Department of Health to the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations, arising from the 2014-15 Annual Report Hearings, and I ask:
(a) when was the second annual report submitted by the Executive Director, Public Health in 2016; and
(b) when will the Minister table this report?