Notice Under Section 82 of the Financial Management Act 2006

Pursuant to section 82(1)(a) of the Financial Management Act 2006, I give notice to both houses that I have decided to provide information to Parliament (in redacted form) in response to Legislative Council Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations Question 1 (b) and 9 (d) dated 22 June 2018 from the Hon Martin Aldridge MLC. The information being sought was as follows:

"I refer to Budget Paper 2 Vol 1, page 250, ensuring a better health care experience for regional patients, including $73.3 million for Geraldton Health Campus and I ask:

b) Please provide the business case that supports the investment of $73.3 million into the project:

Answer:

WA Health is reviewing the business case to ensure that release of this document does not impact and/or disadvantage Government (WA Health) through the sharing of this material with the market (i.e. tender process). WA Health will advise the outcome of this review in due course.

9) I refer to the capital grant of $0.5 million allocated for the upgrade of Valley View Residential Aged Care Facility in Collie and I ask:

d) Please provide a copy of the project business case and financial assistance or grant agreement if executed?

Answer:

WA Health is reviewing the business case to ensure that release of this document does not impact and/or disadvantage Government (WA Health) through the sharing of this material with the market (i.e. tender process). WA Health will advise the outcome of this review in due course. The Grant agreement is yet to be executed.

I have decided that it is reasonable and appropriate to provide a redacted version of the Valley View Residential Aged Care Facility (VVRACF) and Geraldton Health Campus Redevelopment Project Stage One and Community Mental Health Step Up/Step Down Service Business Case (GHC) (collectively the Business Cases) on the basis that the information that has been redacted is commercially sensitive information. In making this decision, I have specifically considered the public interest and accountability for the expenditure of public monies and the efficient and effective management of these monies, and the inherent public interest in the provision of information to Parliament. The information being sought relates to budget, funding and procurement strategies. The disclosure of the information of this nature would result in detriment to the State as it would provide an unfair disadvantage to the Government in that the market would be provided with information which would potentially provide it with an unfair advantage when bidding for this project. This in turn could reduce the value for money outcomes for the Government.

In relation to the GHC the program milestones have also been removed as this information is not currently in the public domain.

In relation to the VVRAC the summary costs for security upgrade, cosmetic and environment upgrade, equipment and project manager costs have been redacted based on the assessment that in relation to budget, funding allocation, this is commercially sensitive.

This could also provide advanced and unfair advantage to the market regarding procurement information. After careful consideration of all the issues, the potential prejudice that will result from the disclosure of the information in this case is of such a magnitude that the information should not be disclosed notwithstanding those competing public interests in favour of disclosure.
The reasons set out above are provided in accordance with my obligations under section 82(2) of the *Financial Management Act 2006*. Notice is also being provided to the Auditor General in accordance with section 82(1)(b) of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

Hon. Roger Cook MLA
Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Mental Health

28 NOV 2018