



# HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SESSION OF 2022 - 2023

(THIRD SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH PARLIAMENT)

## NOTICES OF QUESTION

No. 24

THURSDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2023

### Notices of Question

- 11 Ms *Johnston* to ask the Minister for Science and Technology – With respect to the Digital Ready for Daily Life Program launched in 2019:
- (1) Were any programs and initiatives funded from this Program in each of the financial years: 2019-20; 2020-21; and 2021-22, and if so, how much for each such financial year?
  - (2) Have any programs and initiatives been funded from the Program for 2022-23, and if so, what are the details?
  - (3) Are any funds allocated from this Program for the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25, and if so, what are the details?
  - (4) What are the Key Performance Indicators used to assess and measure the performance and effectiveness of the Program, what outcomes have been identified for Tasmanians experiencing high levels of digital exclusion, specifically: low income households; older Tasmanians; and people not in paid employment? (25 August 2022)
- 63 Ms *Haddad* to ask the Attorney-General – In relation to the unproclaimed amendments to allow the Health Complaints Commissioner to investigate unregistered health workers:
- (1) When does the Government expect these amendments to be proclaimed?
  - (2) Once they are proclaimed, are any extra resources planned to offset the added workload on the Office of the Health Complaints Commissioner, and if so, what are they? (22 June 2023)
- 64 Ms *Haddad* to ask the Attorney-General – In relation to the Office of the Health Complaints Commissioner:
- (1) Are there currently any complaints on hand, and if so, how many?
  - (2) Are there any unresolved complaints, and if so, how many were received before:
    - (a) 1 January 2023;
    - (b) 1 July 2022; and
    - (c) 1 January 2022?
  - (3) Are any staff positions vacant, and if so, how many? (22 June 2023)
- 66 Ms *Haddad* to ask the Attorney-General:
- (1) How many people have been employed as witness intermediaries since the introduction of the scheme, broken down by court registry?
  - (2) Have the witness intermediaries been engaged to assist in court, and if so, how many times, broken down by court registry?
  - (3) Have any hearings had to be adjourned or delayed due to the unavailability of a witness intermediary, and if so, how many times, by court registry?
  - (4) If there have been delays due to unavailability of a witness intermediary, how long has each delay been in months? (22 June 2023)
- 69 Dr *Woodruff* to ask the Minister for the Arts:

- (1) Did any member of the Government provide a written statement of support to any recipient of the 2021-22, or 2022-23, Community Arts and Cultural Development grants awarded by Arts Tasmania?
- (2) If so, which members of the Government provided statements of support? Please provide a copy of any such statements. (8 August 2023)

**72** Dr *Woodruff* to ask the Minister for Environment and Climate Change:

- (1) Is there any calculation of the emissions (by tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>) arising out of Sustainable Timber Tasmania (STT) post-logging 'regeneration burns'?
- (2) If there is a calculation of emissions, what are the figures for the last five financial years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23)?
- (3) Is there any monitoring of health impacts arising out of STT regeneration burns?
- (4) If there is monitoring of health impacts, what are the estimates of health impacts for the last five financial years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23)?
- (5) Is there any monitoring of air quality across the affected airshed during regeneration burns?
- (6) If air quality is monitored, what were the monitored levels of air quality and particulate content for the last five financial years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23)? (8 August 2023)

**73** Dr *Woodruff* to ask the Minister for Health:

- (1) Are any paramedics on workers' compensation plans and not working at the moment, and if so, how many?
- (2) Has overtime for Ambulance Tasmania staff been paid, and if so, how much, by staff role for the financial years 2020-21; 2021-22; and 2022-23?
- (3) Are there operational four-wheel drive ambulances in each of the state's three regions, and if so, how many in each region for the financial years:
  - (a) 2020-21;
  - (b) 2021-22;
  - (c) 2022-23; and
  - (d) the current financial year?
- (4) Have staff in each region been trained to drive these four-wheel drive ambulances, and if so, how many are trained as at 8 August 2023?
- (5) When was the last four-wheel drive ambulance training course run in each region?
- (6) What is the percentage of patients seen within clinically recommended timeframes in Tasmanian emergency departments, by hospital and triage category, for each of the past five calendar years?
- (7) What is the total number of patients seen in Tasmanian emergency departments, by hospital and triage category, for each of the past five calendar years? (8 August 2023)

**75** Dr *Woodruff* to ask the Minister for Primary Industries and Water:

- (1) A response to a question on notice last year indicated that there have been 17 investigations into property/crop protection permits since 2010. Of these, two resulted in infringement notices and seven resulted in prosecutions. What, if any, types of penalties resulted from these actions?
- (2) Were the above prosecutions successful, and was there any follow up investigation of compliance with subsequently issued permits? (8 August 2023)

**76** Dr *Woodruff* to ask the Minister for Workplace Safety and Consumer Affairs:

- (1) How many bonds in total were held by the Rental Deposit Authority as at each of:
  - (a) 30 June 2023 (or the nearest available date for which data is available);
  - (b) 30 June 2022;
  - (c) 30 June 2021;
  - (d) 30 June 2020;
  - (e) 30 June 2019;
  - (f) 30 June 2018; and
  - (g) 30 June 2017?
- (2) What is the total value of the bond holdings for each of these years;
  - (a) 30 June 2023 (or the nearest available date for which data is available);
  - (b) 30 June 2022;
  - (c) 30 June 2021;
  - (d) 30 June 2020;

- (e) 30 June 2019;
- (f) 30 June 2018; and
- (g) 30 June 2017? (8 August 2023)

- 87** Ms O'Byrne to ask the Minister for Health, for each Tasmanian hospital emergency department for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023 to date:
- (1) Have any patients had their clinical assessment of urgency (as their condition deteriorated) risen whilst 'ramped', and if so, how many for each of the following:
    - (a) from category 4 to category 3;
    - (b) from category 3 to category 2; and
    - (c) from category 2 to category 1?
  - (2) Have any of the above patients whose conditions has deteriorated whilst 'ramped,' then being subsequently admitted, and if so, how many?
  - (3) Have any people who called an ambulance been automatically transferred from the North West by ambulance to the Launceston General Hospital, and if so, how many? (7 September 2023)
- 88** Mr Bayley to ask the Minister for Housing and Construction – In relation to the 132 established dwellings purchased by Homes Tasmania in the 2022/23 financial year:
- (1) Were any of these properties purchased following advertisement on the open market, or as private sales without advertisement, and if so, how many of each?
  - (2) Were any of these properties purchased from social housing providers, and if so, how many?
  - (3) Were any of these properties purchased participating in the Private Rental Incentives Program, and if so, how many?
  - (4) What was paid for each of the properties, and what was the latest Valuer-General valuation for each property and the date of these valuations?
  - (5) Was an independent valuation assessment conducted for each property prior to purchase, and if so, what were these valuations? (14 September 2023)
- 89** Ms O'Byrne to ask the Minister for Heritage – In relation to the recent bequest of land and property at Fingal as part of a deceased estate to the Tasmanian Heritage Council:
- (1) Did the Tasmanian Heritage Council reject this bequest at the April 2023 meeting, and if so, why?
  - (2) Following the rejection of the bequest, is a member of the Tasmanian Heritage Council now the owner of the land and property at Fingal?
  - (3) Was the land and property offered on the open market when it was acquired by the member of the Tasmanian Heritage Council?
  - (4) Was a consultant used to assess the condition of the building, and if so, what was the cost of the consultant, and was the written report of the assessment provided to the Tasmanian Heritage Council members before making their decision to reject the bequest?
  - (5) Do Tasmanian Heritage Council members have log-in access to the Land Information System Tasmania (The LIST) to ascertain ownership of a property?
  - (6) Is the member who now owns the property the Chair of the Tasmanian Heritage Council Works Committee, and has the owner sought an exemption for works to the property in Fingal?
  - (7) Was the subject of the works exemption detailed in a written briefing to the Tasmanian Heritage Council at the April 2023 meeting, and if not, why not?
  - (8) Is it appropriate for a significant request to be dealt with as a verbal report, has this previously occurred, and if so, how many times has it occurred? (26 September 2023)
- 90** Ms O'Byrne to ask the Minister for Heritage – In relation to the composition of the Tasmanian Heritage Council board:
- (1) The position of Deputy Chair of the Tasmanian Heritage Council expired on 31 May 2023. Has this position been advertised, and if so, when did this occur?
  - (2) The position of Chair of the Tasmanian Heritage Council will expire on 31 December 2023. Will the position of Chair be advertised, and if so, when? (26 September 2023)
- 91** Ms O'Byrne to ask the Minister for Education, Children and Youth – Based on the most recently obtainable data as used by the Tasmanian Government for planning and comparison purposes, what are the current vacancy rates in government education systems in each of the state and territories within the Commonwealth of Australia for:
- (a) school psychologists;

- (b) social workers; and
- (c) speech and language pathologists? (27 September 2023)

**92** Ms O'Byrne to ask the Minister for Education, Children and Youth – Based on the most recently obtainable data as used by the Tasmanian Government for planning and comparison purposes, what are the current vacancy rates in non-government schools across Tasmania for:

- (a) school psychologists;
- (b) social workers; and
- (c) speech and language pathologists? (27 September 2023)

**93** Ms O'Byrne to ask the Minister for Education, Children and Youth:

- (1) What are the current suspension rates of students with a disability in government education systems in each of the states and territories within the Commonwealth of Australia? Please provide the most recently obtainable data as used by the Tasmanian Government for planning and comparison purposes.
- (2) What are the current suspension rates for students without a disability in government education systems in each of the states and territories within the Commonwealth of Australia? Please provide the most recently obtainable data as used by the Tasmanian Government for planning and comparison purposes.
- (3) As at the end of term 3 2023, what were the suspension rates for students with disability in the government education system across Tasmania, and were any students in this category suspended, and if so, how many?
- (4) As at the end of term 3 2023, what were the suspension rates for students without a disability in the government education system across Tasmania, and were any students in this category suspended, and if so, how many?
- (5) As at the end of term 4 2023, what were the suspension rates for students with disability in the government education system across Tasmania, and were any students in this category suspended, and if so, how many?
- (6) As at the end of term 4 2023, what were the suspension rates for students without a disability in the government education system across Tasmania, and were any students in this category suspended, and if so, how many? (27 September 2023)

**95** Ms O'Byrne to ask the Attorney-General – With reference to a media statement dated 17 March 2023, entitled “Working together to eliminate misidentification of family violence perpetrators”, which includes the sentence “New mandatory family violence training for all police officers is being introduced to help address misidentification”:

- (1) Has this mandatory family violence training commenced, and if not, when will it commence?
- (2) What does the training entail, including but not limited to;
  - (a) contact hours for individual officers;
  - (b) self-guided work;
  - (c) field training and mentorship; and
  - (d) ongoing training refresher training?
- (3) Besides misidentification, what other specific areas/topics are included in the training?
- (4) Who is delivering the training and how were they selected?
- (5) Did the Government consult with anyone in establishing the content and delivery of the training, and if so, who did it consult with?
- (6) By what date does the Government intend that all police officers will have completed the training?
- (7) What is the budgeted funding, by year, including the outyears, specifically for this training? (27 September 2023)

**96** Ms Haddad to ask the Premier:

- (1) Were any health professionals referred to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as a result of the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings, and if so, how many?
- (2) Were any sanctions imposed as a result of any of the above referrals, and if so, how many, broken down by profession and by sanction imposed, including but not limited to:
  - (a) conditions on registrations;
  - (b) suspensions on registrations;
  - (c) restrictions on registrations;

- (d) de-registrations; and
- (e) any other actions taken? (28 September 2023)

**97** Ms *Haddad* to ask the Premier:

- (1) Were any teachers or education staff referred to the Teachers Registration Board as a result of the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings, and if so, how many?
- (2) Were any sanctions imposed as a result of these referrals, including but not limited to, conditions and de-registrations, and if so, how many? (28 September 2023)

**98** Ms *Haddad* to ask the Minister for Housing and Construction – In relation to social housing managed by Homes Tasmania, community housing providers, Aboriginal housing providers, and other housing providers overseen by Homes Tasmania:

- (1) Have any new homes constructed had natural gas heating installed over the past 24 months, and if so, how many, broken down by month and category of housing provider?
- (2) Have any existing homes had natural gas heating installed over the past 24 months, and if so, how many, broken down by month and category of housing provider?
- (3) Have any new homes constructed had natural gas cooking appliances installed over the past 24 months, and if so, how many, broken down by month and category of housing provider?
- (4) Have any existing homes had natural gas cooking appliances installed over the past 24 months, and if so, how many, broken down by month and category of housing provider?
- (5) Does Homes Tasmania have any policies and procedures in relation to the management of the health risks from indoor natural gas appliances, and if so, what are they? (17 October 2023)

**99** Ms *Haddad* to ask the Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation – In relation to the New Directions Sex Offender Rehabilitation Program within Risdon Prison:

- (1) How many participants can participate in the program at the one time?
- (2) Are there any offenders currently on the waitlist for the program, and if so, how many, and what is the length of time they have been on the waitlist?
- (3) For the period of 1 July 2018 to 1 July 2023, provide a breakdown by month of the number of:
  - (a) offenders eligible for the program;
  - (b) applicants to the program;
  - (c) applicants to the program who were declined and the reason for the decline; and
  - (d) applicants who were on the waitlist for the program?
- (4) For the period of 1 July 2018 to 1 July 2023, provide a breakdown by month of the number of:
  - (a) sex offenders who were able to apply for parole, but were not eligible due to not participating in the program; and
  - (b) sex offenders who applied for parole, but were declined on the basis of not being eligible due to not participating in the program?
- (5) For the period of 1 July 2018 to 1 July 2023, what was the average wait time for applicants to the program, broken down by applicants waiting each month? (17 October 2023)

**100** Ms *Haddad* to ask the Minister for Workplace Safety and Consumer Affairs – In relation to rental bonds held and managed by the Rental Deposit Authority:

- (1) Of all disputed bond claims, what is the average length of time between a claim being filed and a bond being paid, broken down by region and month of payment since 1 May 2019?
- (2) Of all bond claims, did any claims take more than three months to resolve since 1 May 2019, and if so, how many, broken down by region and month of payment?
- (3) Of all bond claims, did any claims take more than six months to resolve since 1 May 2019, and if so, how many, broken down by region and month of payment?
- (4) Of bonds paid wholly to tenants after a disputed bond claim, what is the average length of time between a claim being filed and a bond being paid, broken down by region and month of payment since 1 May 2019?
- (5) Of bonds paid wholly to tenants after a disputed bond claim, have any claims taken more than three months to resolve, and if so, how many, broken down by region and month of payment since 1 May 2019?
- (6) Of bonds paid wholly to tenants after a disputed bond claim, did any claims take more than six months to resolve and if so, how many, broken down by region and month of payment since 1 May 2019?

- (7) Of all bond claims which are pending resolution as at 30 September 2023, have any been pending for more than (a) three months, and (b) six months, and if so, how many? (17 October 2023)

LAURA ROSS, *Clerk of the House*.