

The West Australian

2025 STATE BUDGET

THE LOCKRIDGE MONSTER

The shocking depravity and murderous fantasies of a Perth teenager

REBECCA LE MAY

A young man who bludgeoned a father of two to death at his Lockridge home had diarised his gruesome plans for months in "one of the most depraved and monstrous murders this State has seen".

Details of Patrik Weiss' 2023 death were revealed at Alexander Sutton's sentencing, with the court told the killer even wrote about cannibalism.

Sutton, who had fantasised about "slaughtering someone" as a 14-year-old, was 19 when he attacked Mr Weiss with a pick axe after

meeting him on a networking website for bondage fetishists. They arranged a tryst with the 45-year-old waiting in his bedroom — bound and gagged.

Mr Weiss, who had worked as a soft-tissue therapist for the West Coast Eagles, was found by his former wife.

Sutton's lawyer, Katherine Dowling, said: "This is as close to an example of evil as one could imagine."

The now 21-year-old was sentenced to life imprisonment, with eligibility for parole after 20 years.

FULL REPORT PAGE 9



RITA THE CONCRETER

Treasurer unveils massive infrastructure spend but households miss out on power bill relief

JESSICA PAGE

Treasurer Rita Saffioti is pouring billions into infrastructure to drive jobs and wages growth but

has cut direct support to help households.

A Budget headlined by a seventh consecutive surplus contained no surprise sweeteners

with the average family just \$1-a-week better off — if they catch public transport.

BUDGET COVERAGE P4-7



IRAN'S HOSPITAL ROCKETS

PAGES 10-11

PERTH 13-21 Rain increasing. Tomorrow: Showers, 8-17. Yesterday: 14.4-21.6

Weather details P52