

AUSTRALIND — SERVICE UPGRADES

745. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to page 31 of the “Public Transport Plan: Transport @ 3.5 Million” that states —

Until such time, —

That the Bunbury fast train is operating —

upgrades to the Australind service should be prioritised to improve services and build a solid patronage base ...

- (1) What upgrades are currently planned?
- (2) Does the upgrade plan include improving the *Australind* service?
- (3) If yes to (2), what are these improvements and when will they take effect?
- (4) Do upgrades include the modification of stations to allow disabled access?

Hon JIM CHOWN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(4) Government has invested \$6.8 million on maintenance of the Australind line over the last four financial years. The Public Transport Authority is looking at a number of ways the *Australind* service can be upgraded. This includes upgrading station infrastructure to bring it in line with national Disability Discrimination Act standards and eventually replacing the Australind line. The PTA will make a submission to government in due course on requests for funding.