

ESPERANCE FORESHORE — SAND BYPASSING

561. Hon WENDY DUNCAN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

I refer to the minister's answer to question without notice 361, in which she committed to a feasibility study this year to investigate mechanical sand pumping options to deliver sand to the Esperance foreshore in the long term.

- (1) Has funding for the feasibility study been allocated in the 2008-09 budget?
- (2) Has the government considered sand bypassing as a stand-alone option for repairing and maintaining the foreshore; and, if not, why not?
- (3) If yes to (2), why was it not presented to the Esperance community as an option for the long-term repair and maintenance of the foreshore?

Hon SALLY TALBOT replied:

I answer on behalf of Hon Adele Farina. I thank Hon Wendy Duncan for some notice of the question, to which the following answer has been provided by the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.

- (1) Yes.
- (2)-(3) The advice to the government is that sand bypassing alone will not provide sufficient protection for the foreshore. All options presented to the Esperance community require the ongoing placement of sand on the beaches. Funding has been allocated to investigate whether this can be undertaken by bypassing the sand using a mechanical pumping system.