

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT — METROPOLITAN AREA NAVIGATION WARNINGS

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

I refer to the regular email sent by the Department of Transport marine services containing metropolitan area navigation warnings.

- (1) Who is the email sent to?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that the warnings are broadcast on VHF channel 67 and that the majority of boats in Mandurah and Peel inland and ocean waters are unable to receive these transmissions?
- (3) Can the minister confirm that the department has received requests from the Mandurah Volunteer Marine Rescue Group to be included in the email so they can broadcast the warnings on a local frequency?
- (4) If yes to (3), why has this request been refused?

Hon JIM CHOWN replied:

- (1) It is sent to WA Police through its water police marine operations centre in East Fremantle.
- (2) The warnings are broadcast by the water police on VHF channel. The Department of Transport is aware of some issues in relation to VHF channel 67 reception in the Peel region.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) The request has been refused as the Department of Transport is currently trialling the posting of navigational warnings on its website. This information could then be accessed by any third party, including Mandurah VMR, to broadcast on its local VHF channel if it wishes. The trial is due to be completed by the end of September 2016, at which time it is anticipated that the information will be available on DoT's website. This solution has been communicated to the Mandurah VMR.