

SCHOOL BUSES — SERVICE IMPROVEMENT

3045. Hon Ken Travers to the minister representing the Minister for Transport

I refer to your statement on 17 March 2009, that you had appointed a group of Government members headed by Bill Marmion to consult widely with the school bus industry, and to make recommendations to you about possible improvements to this vital service, and ask —

- (1) Has this group completed its work?
- (2) Has it made any recommendations to you?
- (3) If yes to (2) —
  - (a) how many; and
  - (b) will you table these recommendations?
- (4) On what dates did the group meet?
- (5) Were minutes taken of these meetings?
- (6) If yes to (5), will you table them?
- (7) Who did the group consult with and on what dates?
- (8) Will the Minister table any minutes or outcomes from any consultations?
- (9) If no to (8), why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1)-(9) The Parliamentary Inquiry did not proceed however this process has been replaced by an Independent Review Panel (the Panel). The Panel will review submissions and undertake consultation meetings with school bus contractors in February/March 2011. A final report by the Panel is not anticipated until the end of April 2011 and I will consider the recommendations when the report is completed.