

TRAFFIC INTERSECTIONS — RED ARROWS ON LEFT-HAND TURNS

4481. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Transport
- (1) Has there been a review into, or monitoring of the benefits of implementing the red arrows on left hand turns at traffic intersections?
  - (2) Has the Department of Transport received any feedback or comments from the public regarding these traffic signals?
  - (3) What was the reason for implementing the red arrow on left hand turns at controlled traffic intersections?
  - (4) What alternatives were considered to these arrows?
  - (5) At what locations have the red arrows been installed?
  - (6) On what basis were these locations selected?
  - (7) What was the accident record at these intersections prior to and post installation of the red arrows?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

- (1)–(3) The Road Traffic Code requires turning vehicles to give way to pedestrians. This applies at all times including at intersections where traffic signals are installed.

For a number of years, Main Roads has been converting many of its traffic signals to operate as 'Parallel Walks'. This allows pedestrians to cross the side roads of a signalised intersection in the same direction, or 'in parallel', with the movement of vehicles on the through road.

Main Roads understands that the extra delay can frustrate motorists, and that is why the red arrow for left turning vehicles is only used where a safety problem for pedestrians has been identified.

- (4) Main Roads is also undertaking a trial, at one location, of extending the pedestrian head start by more than 5 seconds to see if this impacts on motorists' behaviour.
- (5)–(7) The Member's request will involve a significant amount of work by Main Roads to investigate the design records of each of its 890 sets of traffic signals.

If there is a specific location of concern, Main Roads WA will provide further detail.