

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT — DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, DIRECTOR  
GENERAL CHINESE CONSULATE FUNCTION

**1397. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:**

I refer to a function at the Chinese Consulate on or about 11 August 2014 attended by the Minister for Transport; Finance and the director general of the Department of Agriculture and Food.

- (1) Did the director general attend in his official capacity?
- (2) What did the director general understand was the purpose of the function?
- (3) Was the director general involved in any discussions regarding opportunities for Chinese companies to be involved in Western Australian transport projects; and, if yes, what was the nature of the discussions?
- (4) Was the director general involved in any discussions regarding the opportunity for Western Australian companies to be involved in China; and, if yes, what was the nature of the discussions?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) It was fostering the Western Australia–China relationship and economic opportunities, including agribusiness.
- (3) No.
- (4) The director general was involved in a broad-ranging discussion about potential opportunities arising from the economic rise of China, particularly potential agrifood business opportunities flowing from wealth and population growth, but no discussions about specific commercial opportunities for individual companies.