

TANAMI ROAD — SEALING

638. Hon KEN BASTON to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to WA Labor's booklet titled "Plan for the Kimberley: A Fresh Approach for WA" that was published in February 2017, which states —

- A McGowan Labor Government will continue to work with the Federal and Northern Territory Governments to seal the Tanami Road ...
- (1) Will the minister advise of the status of this commitment and what, if any, progress has been made?
 - (2) Will the minister advise whether contact has been made with the federal government about this commitment; and, if so, what was the nature of this contact?
 - (3) Will the minister advise whether contact has been made with the Northern Territory government about this commitment; and, if so, what was the nature of this contact?
 - (4) Is there funding allocated towards planning and negotiating this project in the 2017–18 budget or forward estimates; and, if not, why not?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

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

- (1)–(4) A submission was made by Main Roads to the commonwealth government for \$81 million in funding under the Northern Australia Roads Programme, comprising a nominal \$20 million over four years to commence the staged upgrading of the road in WA, with \$1 million to undertake a comprehensive planning and engineering study. However, the project was not included in tranche 1 or tranche 2 of the program. The state government is continuing to work with the Northern Territory government to progress the sealing of the road. Given that the first application to the Northern Australia Roads Programme was not successful, the state government will continue to explore all possibilities to seek federal funding in coming budgets.