

MANDURAH ESTUARY BRIDGE

120. Hon ED DERMER to the Minister for Transport:

Some notice has been given of this question.

- (1) What has been the effect of the opening of the Perth–Bunbury highway on the number of vehicles using the Mandurah estuary bridge?
- (2) Are changes to the projected traffic count on the estuary bridge expected in the next five years?
- (3) Are the estuary bridge and the roads either side of it still part of the state road network; and, if not, why not?
- (4) If yes to (3), are there any plans to change the status of the bridge and roads on either side in the future?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

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

- (1) Traffic counts over the Mandurah estuary bridge immediately before and after the opening of the Kwinana Freeway extension—that is, Forrest Highway—showed a reduction in the average weekday volume from around 36 600 vehicles a day to 31 400 vehicles a day, which is approximately a 14.2 per cent reduction.
- (2) Traffic modelling indicates that the average weekday traffic volume over the Mandurah estuary bridge will increase by about 17 per cent over the next five years.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Not applicable.