

ELLENBROOK BUS SERVICES

520. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the minister's announcement today regarding bus service changes to Ellenbrook.

- (1) Has cabinet authorised any additional funding to the Public Transport Authority to implement these changes, or are they being provided from existing resources?
- (2) Are any additional buses being purchased to implement these changes?
- (3) If no additional resources or buses have been provided, what existing services have been altered to allow these changes to proceed?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1)–(3) What I announced today is to meet the public transport needs of the people of Ellenbrook in a way that has not been met before. That was something that was well known by the previous Labor administration, and they did nothing about it. The honourable member, I guess, is doing what oppositions feel they have to do; that is, try to find something bleak in everything. The fact of the matter is the Ellenbrook community is getting a much-needed, much-deserved improvement in the bus services available to them. A public transport service is provided every 10 minutes in peak hours. A new transport spine has been created with real frequency and real convenience so that people can travel to places they need to go. The services continue all day and have been extended to other parts of the district that were not previously serviced. We are now delivering a better public transport outcome to the people of Ellenbrook. Of course, we have made the necessary arrangements to prioritise that area to take the benefit of underutilised resources into other areas. If that is good news and the honourable member does not like that, I am terribly sorry. He ought to understand that there is some good news out there. If he stands for something other than making arrangements to give the people of Ellenbrook the public transport services that his lot never gave them, then I think he is a very sad individual!