

FARM ANIMALS — REFLECTOR STOCK EAR-TAGS

8231. Mr T.G. Stephens to the Minister for Road Safety

- (1) Is the Minister aware of efforts to encourage the use of reflector stock ear-tags to improve visibility of branded cattle and sheep that have strayed onto the roads and highways of regional Western Australia?
- (2) What steps will the Minister take to advance the interest of road safety, particularly in the state's regional areas, by either promoting or requiring the use of reflector stock ear-tags?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

- (1) The Minister is aware of the potential for reflective ear tags to better inform motorists of the presence of stock on WA roads and the work that was undertaken by the Pastoral Fencing Working Group, convened by Main Roads WA, to look at a range of options for addressing road crashes involving livestock.

The Minister is also aware of some early work being undertaken, as part of the Leadership WA Program, to secure the necessary funding for testing of reflective stock tags to ensure compliance with National Livestock Identification Systems requirements for ear tags.

- (2) The Minister supports the findings and recommendations made to the Minister for Transport by the Pastoral Fencing Working Group and would support the promotion of reflective stock ear tags should they be shown to be viable and effective.