

SOUTH WEST — BUS SERVICES

6116. Hon Adele Farina to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Transport

I refer to passenger and driver safety on bus services in the South West region, and I ask —

- (1) What measures are in place to protect bus drivers of buses servicing the South West region while on duty driving a bus?
- (2) What measures are in place to protect passengers on buses operating in the South West region?
- (3) What funding has been allocated in the 2012–13 Budget to provide additional measures to improve —
 - (a) driver safety on the bus; and
 - (b) passenger safety on the bus?
- (4) What additional measures are proposed over the next 5 years to improve —
 - (a) driver safety on the bus; and
 - (b) passenger safety on the bus?
- (5) How much of the funding currently paid to transport contractors operating bus services in the South West region is for bus driver and passenger safety?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

The Public Transport Authority advises:

- (1)–(2) Due to the very low levels of security incidents recorded for bus services operating in the South West region, no additional security measures have been introduced on a permanent basis. When security incidents occur that require a response, the local Police are called to assist. Bunbury Bus Station is fitted with CCTV and these cameras are monitored on a continual basis by the Public Transport Authority. Where security concerns have been raised by the TransBunbury bus operator about antisocial behaviour at the Bunbury Bus Station, the Public Transport Authority has sent a Transperth security vehicle from Perth to Bunbury to provide a security presence and to monitor the situation.
- (3) (a)–(b) Due to the very low levels of security incidents, no specific funding has been provided in the 2012/13 budget to fund additional security measures.
- (4) (a)–(b) Consideration is being given to trialling CCTV on some of the TransBunbury buses. Consideration is also being given to installing two-way radios to improve driver communication capability. (5) Due to the very low levels of security incidents, no specific line item exists within the South West region bus service contracts to fund security measures for bus drivers and passengers.