

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY — APPROPRIATION — REDUCTION

Question without Notice 280 — Answer Advice

HON SIMON O'BRIEN (South Metropolitan — Minister for Finance) [5.03 pm]: As to the question asked of me in a representative capacity to the Treasurer by Hon Ken Travers earlier today, I have now received an answer to that question and I table it and seek leave to have it incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted. [See paper 4551.]

The following material was incorporated —

I thank the Hon Member for some notice of this question.

1. Previously the state accounts were bearing a cost of depreciation for the PTA that no other state budget accepts for similar transport agencies and that is not accepted as a cost that should be borne by the budget for any other public non financial corporation. Last year was the first stage of this change when the budget no longer funded the PTA for depreciation of the grain freight network.

This change now makes us consistent with all other Australian jurisdictions and provides the PTA with a clear and transparent operating subsidy instead of the taxpayer carrying the costs in the state budget of the PTA's depreciation expenses and this is exactly how it should be.

The impact that this has on the 2012/13 operating balance is detailed in Budget Paper three page 162.

2. Nil.
