METRONET — RAIL PROJECTS

875.   Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to today's article by Heather McNeill that appeared on WAtoday that outlines that more than 300 homes could be impacted by the construction of the Thornlie–Cockburn and Yanchep lines.

(1)   What is the minister's plan to minimise disruption to hundreds of households and businesses during Metronet's construction and operation?

(2)   How much has the minister allocated to compensation and/or compulsory acquisitions?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

(1)–(2)   I thank the member for the question. As with all major projects, an assessment is done before the project so there is a baseline for after the project. That happened for NorthLink WA and it happens for all major road and rail projects. It is the wise and smart thing to do because that way —

Mr V.A. Catania: How much is it going to cost?

The SPEAKER: I will tell you what is costing you; I call you to order for the first time, member for North West Central.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: It is the wise and smart thing to do because that way there is a good baseline. The very, very exciting part of that project is that we will be introducing matting underneath that rail line to reduce vibration into the future. This is something that the member for Southern River raised at a community forum when we undertook discussions. In relation to the freight line, we know there are concerns about the vibrations. We are going to introduce matting to reduce vibrations on this project. This is something that the community very much welcomes and it is something that the former government did not do for the Butler extension. Does the member for Butler remember that? The former government did not introduce that matting for the Butler extension. We noted at the time, and as a result of community feedback, at the community forum that we held —

Mr D.C. Nalder interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bateman, please.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: — that we wanted to make sure that we reduce vibrations into the future. Included in the project is matting to reduce that.