

PORT AUTHORITIES — STATEMENTS OF CORPORATE INTENT

463. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Why has the minister still not tabled the 2009–10 statements of corporate intent for the port authorities of Albany, Bunbury, Dampier, Esperance, Geraldton and Port Hedland?
- (2) Is the minister aware of the reasons the Treasurer has not given his concurrence to these statements of corporate intent; and, if he is, what are they?
- (3) What actions has the minister taken to seek the concurrence of the Treasurer since he referred the statements of corporate intent to the Treasurer in 2009?
- (4) Why was the minister able to table the 2010–11 statements of corporate intent for the Albany Port Authority but has still not tabled its 2009–10 statement?
- (5) Has the minister reached agreement on the 2010–11 statements of corporate intent with the other seven port authorities, as required by the Port Authorities Act 1999?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question and his interest in the matter.

- (1) The 2009–10 statements of corporate intent for the port authorities of Albany, Bunbury, Dampier, Esperance, Geraldton and Port Hedland have not been tabled in Parliament because the Treasurer has been unable to provide his concurrence.

Hon Peter Collier: They're the same ones that weren't tabled in 2005!

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: I do not know about that—I am dealing with my watch.

Hon Peter Collier: And 2006!

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Yes. I shall continue with my answer.

- (2) Yes; the Treasurer has not been able to provide his concurrence as the statements of corporate intent contain references to unapproved capital works that would require the Treasurer to provide conditional concurrence to ensure that the port authorities complied with the capital works approval processes of government. However, legal advice indicates that the Port Authorities Act 1999 does not provide for the Treasurer's conditional concurrence.
- (3) The Department of Transport is consulting with the Department of Treasury and Finance with a view to finding a solution that ensures the integrity of the statements of corporate intent as planning documents, and at the same time reflects the concerns of the Treasurer to ensure port authorities comply with the capital works approval processes of government.
- (4) The minister has been unable to table the 2009–10 statement of corporate intent of the Albany Port Authority because the Treasurer has been unable to provide his concurrence.
- (5) The minister has not yet been able to reach agreement on the 2010–11 statements of corporate intent with the other seven port authorities.