

SOUTH WESTERN HIGHWAY, MANJIMUP — ROAD WORKS

4898. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Transport

Referring to recent road works and roadside clearing on the South Western Highway south of Manjimup towards Walpole, I ask —

- (1) Who initiated the request for the work to be carried out?
- (2) What was the reason for this roadwork?
- (3) What was the cost of this roadwork?
- (4) Was any funding of this road work provided under the Royalties for Regions program?
- (5) What were the design criteria for the recent work?
- (6) Is there a policy on roadside clearing?
- (7) If yes to (6), please provide a copy of this policy?
- (8) How many trees of logging quality were removed during this work?
- (9) Was the timber sold?
- (10) If yes to (9), who to and at what price?
- (11) If no to (9), why not?
- (12) What future road work that involves the straightening and widening of the roads is planned for the Pemberton/Northcliffe and Manjimup Walpole roads?
- (13) What is the anticipated cost and the timeline for these future road works?
- (14) How much of this expenditure will come from the Royalties for Regions program?
- (15) Please provide information regarding road accidents in the past five years accidents on this part of the South Western Highway, per year, regarding —
  - (a) the number of fatalities;
  - (b) the number of severe accidents; and
  - (c) the most likely cause of the accidents.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

Main Roads WA advises:

- (1) Main Roads WA.
- (2) Improvement to enhance safety.
- (3) \$9 574 166
- (4) No
- (5) Roads, intersections and traffic signs are designed in accordance with AUSTRROADS and Main Roads' Road and Traffic Guidelines.
- (6) Yes
- (7) A copy of the Policy and Clearing Permit CPS 818 is attached. [See paper 4126.]
- (8) Approximately 250 trees.
- (9) Yes. Forest Products Commission (FPC) was engaged to remove and salvage the millable timber.
- (10) Refer to (9) above. Main Roads does not know what price the timber was sold for.
- (11) Not applicable
- (12) Development of upgrading strategies for these roads is yet to be complete.
- (13) Project cost and timeline are still unknown.
- (14) No funds are expected from the Royalties for Regions program.
- (15)
  - (a) One
  - (b) Four

- (c) All severe crashes involved single vehicles. The most likely causes were inattention, speed or fatigue. More than 50 per cent of all vehicle crashes on this section of highway involve impact with trees.