

BUS SERVICES — PILBARA

505. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What is the current annual dollar value of any state government subsidies towards regular passenger transport bus services in the Town of Port Hedland, the Shire of Roebourne, the Shire of East Pilbara and the Shire of Ashburton?
- (2) What are the full details of each bus service that is provided with this subsidy?
- (3) What plans does the state government have to fund an improved bus service for Pilbara people?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The Public Transport Authority advises —

- (1) In the Town of Port Hedland, an operating subsidy of \$1 269 293 for 2011–12 was paid to the local operator. In the Shire of Roebourne, an operating subsidy of \$69 167 for 2011–12 was paid to the local operator. In the Shire of East Pilbara, an operating subsidy of \$103 800 for 2011–12 was paid to the local operator. In the Shire of Ashburton, an operating subsidy of \$18 179 for 2011–12 was paid to the local operator.
- (2) The Town of Port Hedland regular passenger transport service comprises town and school-based bus services. The Shire of Roebourne RPT service comprises a school-based service and a subsidised inter-town service. In the Shire of East Pilbara, there is a subsidised inter-town service. In the Shire of Ashburton, there is a subsidised taxi service.
- (3) The services in these Pilbara towns are under continual review, and currently service levels are in keeping with patronage demand.