

NORTHERN RAILWAY EXTENSION – PRIORITY

1388. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Transport

- (1) Has the State Government commenced any work to determine the net benefits to the State of extending the Northern Railway Line to Butler and Brighton?
- (2) Will the Minister table any study conducted?
- (3) Will the Minister outline the results of this work?
- (4) Is the Minister or his agencies aware of any studies, conducted by any other organisation into the net benefit to the state of this project?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) Yes. An economic assessment was undertaken for the Public Transport Authority this year.
- (2) [See paper 1772.]
- (3) The final recommendation of work carried out by private consultants of the business case to extend the rail line to the Butler area was that the railway be extended to Brighton with no station at Butler. Analysis showed that this gave a consistently higher benefit/cost ratio than the option to extend the railway only to Butler, or to extend the railway to Brighton with a station at Butler as well.
- (4) Yes. It is understood that a report was prepared by private consultants for the City of Wanneroo during the period of the previous Government.