

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT — MARINE SAFETY DIVISION

1434. Hon Jock Ferguson to the Minister for Transport

- (1) How many full time employees (FTE) were there in the Marine Safety Division of the Department of Transport in —
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008; and
 - (c) 2009?
- (2) How many FTE do you expect to be in the Marine Safety Division in 2010?
- (3) Is the patrol vehicle 16 (PV16) currently not operational?
- (4) If yes to (3), how long has the PV16 been out of service?
- (5) When do you expect the PV16 to be returned to operational duties on the Swan River?
- (6) Over the 9kms of Swan River that runs through the electorate of Maylands, how many infringements were issued to boats, jetskis and or skiers during —
 - (a) 2007;
 - (b) 2008; and
 - (c) 2009?
- (7) Of these infringements, for what reasons were they issued?
- (8) How many of these infringements were paid?
- (9) How many of these infringements went to court?
- (10) Of those that went to court —
 - (a) how many were found guilty and not guilty;
 - (b) how many charges were laid by summons or arrest?
- (11) In the past 12 months, has the Government received any requests, written or verbal to expand the current Personal Watercraft Area on the Swan River?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1)
 - (a) 94.05 FTE for the 2007-08 financial year.
 - (b) 102.05 FTE for the 2008-09 financial year.
 - (c) 101.05 FTE for the 2009-10 financial year.
- (2) 102.05 FTE.
- (3) No. PV16 is currently in service in Geraldton. The vessel will be redeployed to Carnarvon in May 2010 for four months before being returned to Geraldton for the 2010-11 summer boating season.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) PV16 will remain in service in the regions for the foreseeable future. On-water patrol activities in all areas of the Swan River are currently being provided by other Marine Safety vessels and joint patrols utilising Swan River Trust and WA Water Police vessels. Marine Safety is currently conducting a tender process to purchase a new 5.8m patrol vessel to be pre-positioned in Maylands. This vessel is expected to enter service by October 2010.
- (6)
 - (a) 106 Infringements. 41 Cautions.
 - (b) 39 Infringements. 51 Cautions.
 - (c) 53 Infringements. 32 Cautions.
- (7) During 2009, the main offences resulting in the issuing of an infringement were exceeding the speed limit (18), no Recreational Skippers Ticket (17), unregistered vessel (8), skiing out of area or without an observer (6), failing to display navigation lights (3) and navigating a vessel dangerously (1).
- (8) Of the 53 infringements issued during 2009, as of 10 March 2010, 31 had been paid. Of the remaining 22 infringements, these were referred to fines enforcement and it is unknown how many of these have subsequently been paid.

- (9) Of the 53 infringements issued during 2009, none went to court.
- (10) (a)-(b) Not applicable.
- (11) Yes. The Marine Safety Division of the Department of Transport has received a verbal request from Jet Sport West to review and possibly expand the current Personal Watercraft Area on the Swan River. This matter will be considered as part of a formal review of aquatic usage in the Swan Canning Riverpark by Transport and the Swan River Trust scheduled to commence in April 2010.