

BUS DRIVERS RUNNING RED LIGHTS — INVESTIGATION

1378. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Transport

I refer to a report that four spots are prominent for bus drivers running red lights and ask –

- (1) Has the Public Transport Authority (PTA) carried out any enquires to determine why these intersections or prominent spots are areas where bus drivers repeatedly run red lights?
- (2) In light of two of these traffic lights being on the route of the 106, has any investigation been conducted to determine if the congestion on this route or the running time allocated for this route is a contribution to these intersections being prominent?
- (3) If no to (2), will the Minister instruct the PTA to carry out an investigation into these matters?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1)-(2) In an overall sense, given the number of buses in service and the number of kilometres travelled, the offence rates are low. The Public Transport Authority (PTA) receives all red light camera infringement notices relating to Transperth buses as well as all multi nova infringements. All offences are entered into a data base in order to monitor trends and offences are passed to the relevant Transperth bus contractor in order to identify the driver and ensure payment of the fine and/or any reduction of demerit points occurs correctly.

There have been several intersections identified with a higher number of red light camera offences than usual. With only a limited number of red light cameras in Perth, Transperth and its bus contractors have investigated those intersections with higher incidents of red light offences and undertaken assessments on running times. It has been found that the incidents are not caused by buses having insufficient running time.

In any event, if a bus was running late, drivers are still expected to observe all road rules. Each of Transperth's three bus contractors have strong processes in place where drivers can report concerns about running times if they exist and Transperth's SmartRider system gives incredibly accurate data on bus running time (start and finish) which is available to the bus companies for their service planning.

- (3) Not applicable