

PASTORAL LEASE PUBLIC ACCESS ROADS — WHIM CREEK ROAD

851. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Lands:

I refer to question without notice 738 about road closures on pastoral leases.

- (1) Can the minister now advise what action was taken by any government department or agency to close sections of the old Whim Creek Road?
- (2) Which sections of the road were closed; when were they closed; and why?
- (3) Will the minister consider reopening those sections of the old Whim Creek Road?
- (4) If not, why not?
- (5) Will the minister create a public access route under the provisions of the Land Administration Act 1997 to secure a guaranteed public access route for local residents?
- (6) If not, why not?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for her question. On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Lands, I provide the following response —

- (1)-(2) In 1988 the then Shire of Port Hedland requested closure of a small portion of the road shown blue on the attached plans, which I will table. In requesting closure of the portion of road by the then Department of Land Administration, the Shire of Port Hedland confirmed it had complied with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1960, which included a requirement for public advertising. There were no objections received to the closure. I also table copies of the relevant correspondence for the member's information.

In 2007 the Town of Port Hedland made a further request to close another portion of the road, which is shown in purple on the attached plans, following compliance with the requirements of the Land Administration Act 1997, including public advertising. Again, there were no objections received to the proposed closure. This request was made to the former Department of Planning and Infrastructure. The portion of road covered by the second request has not been closed as this will not be processed until further detailed planning associated with the Boodarie industrial estate has been finalised.

- (3)-(6) The Department of Regional Development and Lands will work with the Town of Port Hedland and all stakeholders to try to negotiate an access arrangement that will suit all stakeholders' interests. The minister will consider all options once the outcomes of these negotiations have been completed.

[See paper 1122.]