

BUNBURY OUTER RING ROAD

639. Hon Dr STEVE THOMAS to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:

I was hoping for a lift in standard, but I am shattered!

I refer to the Bunbury Outer Ring Road project.

- (1) Why has the projected cost of this project blown out under the minister's management from an estimated \$852 million in September 2019 to \$1 350 million in the current budget?
- (2) Why has the scope of the project been reduced at the same time?
- (3) Can she now confirm that traffic lights will be installed on roundabouts that were supposed to be graded separations in the original plan; and, if so, how many lights on how many roundabouts will there be?
- (4) Will the new Treasurer be keeping a better overview of project cost blowouts in the transport portfolio; and, if so, how?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the Leader of the Opposition for some notice of the question. The following answer is provided on behalf of the Minister for Transport.

- (1)–(4) The cost of \$852 million was prior to detailed design and cost estimating. It is now \$1.35 billion. The current budget reflects the scale and complexity of the project, as well as the realities of delivering a significant infrastructure project within the current cost environment.