

CANNABIS — DRIVER IMPAIRMENT TESTING

785. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Road Safety:

I congratulate the minister on his new portfolio and, in so doing, I refer him to research published recently by academics at Swinburne University of Technology in Victoria that concludes that eye tracking may assist in determining cannabis-related driver impairment.

- (1) Do ocular movement tests form any part of the current impairment testing regime on our WA roads?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) Will the minister commit to investigating the merits of using eye tracking, which is used in many other jurisdictions as a test of focus and sobriety, here in WA, especially when an incident relates to cannabis use?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I represent the Minister for Road Safety.

- (1) No.
- (2) Enforcement of impaired driving rules is an operational matter for police.
- (3) The Road Safety Commission is not aware of any cost-effective, easy-to-administer and scientifically based objective ocular movement test for general roadside use by police officers.