

CATTLE CROSSING, COWARAMUP

443. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

- (1) When will the flashing amber lights near the dangerous cattle crossing either side of Cowaramup on the Bussell Highway be installed?
- (2) What is the estimated cost of installing these lights?
- (3) How much of this cost will be met by -
 - (a) Main Roads WA;
 - (b) the dairy farmers themselves?
- (4) Will the cattle underpasses be provided in these locations, and others, when the Bussell Highway is finally upgraded?
- (5) If not, why not?

Hon GRAHAM GIFFARD replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Main Roads is currently preparing an appropriate design for flashing amber lights at cattle crossings with the view to conducting a trial in 2003. This trial will be used to monitor and assess the effectiveness of this type of device.
- (2) The cost of the device will depend upon the design finally chosen. However, the cost is expected to range from \$20 000 to \$30 000.
- (3) The cost of the initial trial and assessment will be met by Main Roads. Main Roads is currently developing a policy outlining the criteria for determining the need for facilities such as cattle crossing warning lights and underpasses. This policy will also address the issue of cost-sharing arrangements.
- (4) The future provision of facilities for livestock crossing Bussell Highway will be assessed as soon as the policy document has been completed early in the new year.
- (5) Not applicable.