

RAILWAYS, GREENWOOD STATION, COMPLETION

1221. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

I refer to the projected construction of the Greenwood Train Station and ask -

- (a) is it correct that completion of this station has been delayed again;
- (b) if so, by how long;
- (c) has the timetable for any other services and/or facilities in connection with the northern suburbs railway been delayed; and
- (d) if so, which ones and for how long?

Ms A.J. MacTIERNAN replied:

- a) No. Services to Greenwood Station will commence in September 2004. It would have been possible to commence services sooner if the previous Government had not taken a private financing approach to the acquisition of the railcars required when Greenwood Station is constructed. The railcar acquisition tenders were changed to reflect public financing after Treasury's review of the tenders found that there would be savings of approximately \$25 million in public funding and ownership of the railcars compared to the previous Government's private financing approach.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) No. Design and manufacture of the railcars is now well advanced and railcars will be available to commence services to Clarkson and Greenwood stations in September 2004.
- d) Not applicable.