

RAILWAYS, SOUTHERN RAIL LINK, ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SURVEY OF BUILDINGS

1291. Mr Edwards to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

I refer to the answer to question on notice No. 197 (d) on 25 February 2003 in relation to the impact of the Southern Rail Link on Perth's heritage places and ask the Minister -

- (a) when was the architectural heritage survey of buildings in Perth that are likely to be affected by the Southern Rail Link carried out and by whom;
- (b) what buildings and places were included within the limits of the survey;
- (c) will the Minister table the architectural heritage survey;
- (d) if not, why not;
- (e) will the Minister table the Consultant's Brief for this survey;
- (f) if not, why not;
- (g) given that architectural heritage is only one of a number of internationally recognised heritage values, how has the impact of the Southern Rail Link on the overall heritage values of places likely to be affected been assessed;
- (h) what potential risks to the heritage values of places likely to be affected by the Southern Rail link have been identified; and
- (i) what recommendations has the Board of the Heritage Council made to the Minister in relation to ensuring heritage values of heritage places in the City of Perth are not diminished?

Ms A.J. MacTIERNAN replied:

- (a) The survey was carried out in June 2002, by Hocking Planning and Architecture.
- (b) The Survey included:
 - the Horseshoe Bridge;
 - all buildings on the precinct bounded by Wellington Street, William Street, Murray Street Mall and the Commonwealth Bank, Post Office and Albert Facey House buildings; and
 - the former Westpac Bank and '3 in 1 fast foods' buildings on the east side of William Street and south of Murray Street Mall.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) Yes.
- (f) Not applicable.
- (g) Impacts of the South West Metropolitan Railway on issues of European and Indigenous Heritage, together with wetlands, nature reserves, fauna, avifauna (including migratory birds) are addressed in the Public Environmental Review (PER) document. The PER document was prepared by New MetroRail [formerly Perth Urban Rail Development (PURD)] in response to the level of assessment set by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for this project.
- (h) Research has shown that a number of structures along the route will require monitoring and/or protective measures to prevent structural damage during construction. Studies have been commissioned to examine the potential noise and vibration impacts on adjoining properties during operation of the railway. The places of heritage significance for the South West Metropolitan Railway include Shenton's Mill at South Perth and a number of buildings and structures in Perth City. All affected heritage places have been identified in the PER.
- (i) I am unaware of any recommendations or submissions made by the Heritage Council to me or to my office. The Heritage Council has made a submission to the EPA in the PER document on places considered to have heritage significance. The Heritage Council's submission contains recommendations which include:
 - The requirement to undertake a structural survey of buildings and structures; and
 - the requirement to carry out a comprehensive and independent Heritage Impact Study.

In finalisation of the PER process, the recommendations of the Heritage Council will be considered by the EPA who then make recommendations to the Minister for the Environment as the EPA considers appropriate.