

TRANSIT GUARDS, 9 SEPTEMBER JOINT PRESS RELEASE

**769. Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:**

I refer to the joint press release by ministers Roberts and MacTiernan on 9 September 2001.

- (1) When the 235 new transit guards to be employed by the Western Australian Government Railways are recruited and trained, how many will travel on each metropolitan passenger train, and when will that target be achieved?
- (2) How many transit guards currently travel on metropolitan passenger trains, and do they travel on every train?
- (3) Will the new transit guards be sworn in as special constables with powers of arrest, and what other powers will they have?
- (4) Will the 50 transit police attached to the police transit unit be on constant mobile patrol on all four metropolitan passenger railway routes: Perth-Armadale; Perth-Fremantle; Perth-Midland; and the northern suburbs passenger transit route?
- (5) Is it intended that they will patrol the proposed Perth-Mandurah passenger transit route?

**Hon G.T. GIFFARD replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) One transit guard will travel on each train from the first morning service until 7.00 pm. Two transit guards will then travel on the train until the end of the last service. This new initiative is expected to be in place by mid 2002.
- (2) Currently, two special constables travel on each train from 7.00 pm until the end of the last service.
- (3) All transit guards will have powers of arrest, and approximately 70 will have powers equivalent to state police officers.
- (4) The 50 transit police will provide a mobile emergency response as well as patrolling trains and stations.
- (5) It is expected that rail security on the Perth to Mandurah service will be of the same standard as the new system being implemented.