

SCHOOL STUDENTS, PUBLIC TRANSPORT SUBSIDY

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

I refer to the discount MultiRider program launched for term 4 this year allowing city students to travel by public transport on unlimited zones for 50c.

- (1) In the interests of equity, will this policy be extended to country students who must use private transport operators where public transport is not available to access the schools of their choice?
- (2) If not, why not?

Hon ADELE FARINA replied:

- (1)-(2) The government's commitment was to provide school students on Transperth services and on country town bus services with a 50c student MultiRider fare. Country students who use operators contracted by the Public Transport Authority to provide country town bus services are therefore eligible for the student 50c fare. Country students outside town areas are eligible for free transport to the nearest appropriate school. This allows free transport to either public or private schools, a benefit far more generous than that available to city students.