

CAPE LEVEQUE ROAD

5957. Ms J. Farrer to the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's recent announcement to spend \$65 million to seal the Cape Leveque road, and I ask:

- (a) can the Premier confirm that the \$65 million is not in the 2016/17 budget papers;
- (b) has the Premier met with any of the traditional owner groups on the Dampier Peninsular to discuss this matter;
- (c) how will the Premier ensure that the natural and cultural elements throughout the peninsular are protected and maintained; and
- (d) will a permit system be introduced to manage visitor access?

Mr C.J. Barnett replied:

- (a) The \$65 million is an estimate of the total cost to complete the upgrade of the Cape Leveque Road. There was a State allocation of \$500 000 to progress development activities for the project in the 2016–17 year. The Commonwealth has expressed a willingness to contribute to the project. The State funds will be formalised as part of the normal budgetary processes.
- (b) I have been approached informally by many people about improving the Cape Leveque Road including Aboriginal community members from the Dampier Peninsula, as well as pastoralists, tourism operators, Shire councillors and Broome townspeople.
- (c) Work to improve the Cape Leveque Road will comply with all statutory requirements, including the relevant environmental and Aboriginal heritage approvals.
- (d) This is yet to be decided.