

SCHOOL BUS SERVICE — NORTH YUNDERUP–PINJARRA

20. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the cancellation of the orange school bus service from North Yunderup to Pinjarra.

- (1) Is the minister aware of the concerns being expressed by parents of very young students who now have to travel on Transperth school special buses?
- (2) What has the minister done to alleviate the concerns of parents about how incidents of lost SmartRiders, children missing their stops and small children standing in aisles while the bus is moving are to be dealt with now that there is no orange school bus service?

Hon JIM CHOWN replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) A large number of primary and secondary students use Transperth's school bus network across the Perth metropolitan area every day without incident. All Transperth drivers have a working with children clearance and are specifically trained in managing large numbers of students. Both schools and Transperth have had staff in attendance during the transition from the orange school bus service to Transperth services to assist students with any issues. In addition, specific issues raised by parents have been dealt with on a case-by-case basis by Transperth. Students are still able to travel while SmartRider issues are being investigated and resolved, and Transperth's card bureau—Monitor WA—provides a very efficient turnaround when new cards are required.