

MITCHELL FREEWAY ROADWORKS

396. Mr A.P. O'GORMAN to the Premier:

I refer to roadworks currently being undertaken on the Mitchell Freeway.

- (1) Can the Premier confirm that the Public Transport Authority is undertaking these roadworks during peak-hour traffic periods and daytime hours in an effort to avoid paying night-shift penalties to workers?
- (2) Have night-shift operations been cut back as a result of the government's three per cent cuts?
- (3) Will all PTA roadworks across the metropolitan area now be conducted during peak hours and daytime hours?
- (4) Will the Premier instruct the PTA to reschedule these works immediately; and, if not, why not?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

- (1)-(4) I am very conscious of the disruption on the freeway because of roadworks. The question quite specifically related to night-shift penalties. It would have been a good idea had the member given me some prior notice. I would have been able to give him a comprehensive answer. I am only aware of what I have seen in the media. It is not an area within my direct responsibility.

Mr E.S. Ripper: You might have had a briefing note on it, because it is a controversial issue.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I know, but I do not have one. I will get a written response to the member, updating him with the information that I can provide. I will not stand here and guess.

Mr M. McGowan: By when?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I am not talking to the member for Rockingham. I said that I would get it to the member for Joondalup.

Mr M. McGowan: Today?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Today. The member has had a week off. I know that babies cry at night, but he should have come back a bit better tempered.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, members!