

MOTOR VEHICLES, NOISY AND SMOKY VEHICLES

772. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

I refer the Minister to her media statement of 3 October 2002 entitled 'New Rules Target Noisy, Smoky Vehicles' and ask -

- (a) how many warnings, notices and improvement orders have been issued since the new policy came into force;
- (b) what type of vehicles have been issued with warnings, notices and improvement orders;
- (c) will the Minister explain the difference between a 4-wheel drive vehicle, used for commercial purposes, with excessive black exhaust gasses and a 4-wheel drive in private use; and
- (d) if no warnings, notices and improvement orders have been issued, what policies does the Minister intend to put in place to fight air pollution?

Ms A.J. MacTIERNAN replied:

- (a) The new Rules referred to in my media statement of 3 October took effect on 1 November 2002. These Rules are known as the Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 2002.
Work orders are not categorised according to the faults and therefore the number issued specifically for emission offences is not known.
- (b) For the reasons mentioned previously, the type of vehicle issued with warnings is not known.
- (c) There is no difference between four wheel drive vehicles used for commercial purposes and those used privately in terms of any obligation to keep the vehicles in good running order. Both vehicle categories are treated equally in terms of penalties with respect to non-compliance.
- (d) The Department for Planning and Infrastructure (DPI), Main Roads WA and the Police Service are currently in the process of jointly preparing compliance notices and other documentation to take into account the provisions of the newly introduced Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 2002 and the Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 2002. Once these are completed, the agencies mentioned above will finalise the draft enforcement strategy in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection.

Fundamentally the policies to fight air pollution will be based on the strategies contained in the Vehicle Emissions Management section of the Perth Air Quality Management Plan. Both DPI and Main Roads WA have been working with the Transport industry in an endeavour to raise awareness with respect to air pollution and DPI has been consulting with the motor vehicle repair industry to provide support in repairing defected vehicles.

A brochure entitled 'Clear the Air – New exhaust emission requirements for Western Australian vehicles' has recently been published and is currently being disseminated to all industry sectors and to user groups, such as the RAC.