

MANJIMUP TAXI SERVICE

559. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for State Development:

- (1) Has the minister received a consultant's report from Mike Horobin regarding the Manjimup Taxi Service?
- (2) If yes, will the minister table the report?
- (3) Has an application for financial assistance been made by the Manjimup Taxi Service?
- (4) Is the minister aware that if financial support for the Manjimup Taxi Service is not available immediately, the business will close, with serious implications for the town, particularly for low-income families?
- (5) Will the Government take urgent action to resolve this issue and act on the recommendation contained in paragraph 6 of the Horobin report executive summary?

Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Yes. I have had a look at the report. As it contains confidential information about the business, I wanted to confirm that the owners were aware of it. I hope to get an answer back before the end of question time that the people whose business is the subject of the report are aware of the intention to table it in Parliament. I am happy to liaise with the member about that, either by providing the answer later in question time or by speaking with the member outside the Chamber to work something through. The minister is certainly happy for the report to be tabled.

Hon Barry House: Even if you delayed tabling it until you have clarified the position, it would be helpful.

Hon KEN TRAVERS: I will continue to clarify those matters with the minister's office and liaise with the member.

- (3) No formal application for financial assistance against a designated assistance program has been received from the Manjimup Taxi Service. However, the Manjimup Taxi Service has made requests for assistance, both in writing and verbally, to a range of ministers and public service agencies.
- (4) The Minister for State Development is aware that, since the Manjimup Taxi Service announced its decision to close on 8 April 2004 the Department for Planning and Infrastructure has given it permission to alter the conditions of the taxi licence, and the taxi service has been operating on a part-time basis since this variation.
- (5) No.