

FREMANTLE TRAFFIC BRIDGE

609. Ms S.F. McGURK to the Minister for Transport:

I have a supplementary question. There are now predictions that services on the Fremantle train line could be interrupted for up to three weeks. Will the minister admit that this government's risk management of the port is hopelessly inadequate?

Mr D.C. NALDER replied:

The risk analysis for this port goes way back. The port of Fremantle has been around for a lot longer than this government. There have been independent analyses, particularly following the barge mishap of 2011, and it has been found by an independent body that the processes in place are adequate. As I explained yesterday, there are shoal waters, and it was expected that a ship of this size could not breach those shoal waters and hit the bridge.

Ms S.F. McGurk: They did, though.

Mr D.C. NALDER: Obviously it did!

Several members interjected.

Mr D.C. NALDER: We have said that this has occurred and it is obviously not adequate. We have also said —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, members!

Mr D.C. NALDER: We have also said that we are putting in place safety measures for that bridge. We are going to spend \$20 million and we are in the process of doing that. This incident has occurred and we are not shying away from it. We are putting processes in place. I can say that the Labor Party did absolutely nothing for the Fremantle Traffic Bridge when it was in power; members opposite make these claims now, but there is no change to the risk for the Fremantle Traffic Bridge or the rail bridge. They sit there and accuse us, but we are doing it, we are putting things in place and we will protect that rail bridge.