

FARRINGTON ROAD, UPGRADING

437. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage:

- (1) Is the minister aware of the widespread public opposition to the upgrading of Farrington Road where it passes through the Beeliar Regional Park at North Lake?
- (2) Is the minister aware that Farrington Road passes within 25 metres of North Lake, and that this does not conform to the current Environmental Protection Authority policy on wetland buffers?
- (3) Is the minister aware that the EPA has twice rejected the widening of Farrington Road in Beeliar Regional Park, in 1984 and 1991?
- (4) Is the minister aware that the City of Cockburn is once again considering the construction of a second carriageway on this section of Farrington Road?
- (5) Will the minister reassure me that he will not support such a proposal?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No, however the Minister for the Environment and Heritage is aware of concerns raised by members of the local community in this regard, within the broader context of road planning issues in the area generally.
- (2) The minister is aware that Farrington Road passes close to North Lake; however this section of the road was constructed in the early 1980s.
- (3) The minister is aware that in 1983 the Environmental Protection Authority concluded that the construction of Farrington Road as a four-lane dual carriageway was inappropriate, and that in 1991 the EPA recommended that the second carriageway of Farrington road be permanently deleted and the road reserve be reduced to 12 metres in width.
- (4) The minister is not aware of any proposal by the City of Cockburn to construct a second carriageway on this section of Farrington Road.
- (5) The minister cannot comment on this as she does not have any details of any proposal.