

**FORREST HIGHWAY — INVASIVE WEEDS**

*Question without Notice 1229 — Answer Advice*

**HON JIM CHOWN (Agricultural — Parliamentary Secretary)** [5.07 pm]: I have a response to Hon Sally Talbot's question without notice 1229 asked on 23 October 2014. The response is —

- (1) Main Roads is aware of numerous species of pest weeds that occur within the road reserve.
- (2) Mechanical control of weeds—roadside slashing—will spread weed seed and, as such, there are operational guidelines in place to manage this, including requirements to clean down machinery after each day's work.
- (3) Extensive control works are undertaken every year to contain pest weeds and to eliminate declared weeds.
- (4) In 2013–14 an amount of \$141 910, and in 2014–15 an amount of approximately \$100 000.
- (5) Main Roads maintains a public inquiry facility to allow faults and concerns to be reported. In addition, Main Roads has representation on the weed biosecurity groups recently formed in the Peel, Leschenault and Warren areas in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Food to work together to control declared weeds. Furthermore, Main Roads also attended the Weeds of National Significance workshops held in the south west in 2012 to raise awareness and establish a working relationship with local weed groups in the south west region.