

PUBLIC TRANSPORT — FREE WI-FI

3035. Hon Ken Travers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the Ministers announcement to introduce free Wi-Fi through Perth's public transport network, and I ask:

- (a) when does the Minister expect this service will commence;
- (b) what is the estimated cost to install free Wi-Fi on the:
 - (i) bus network;
 - (ii) ferry services; and
 - (iii) train network;
- (c) what is the estimated annual operating cost of free Wi-Fi on the:
 - (i) bus network;
 - (ii) ferry services; and
 - (iii) train network; and
- (d) considering railcars similar to our B-series trains, already provide free Wi-Fi in Queensland, what exactly is the Public Transport Authority investigating in regards to installing Wi-Fi on the train network?

Hon Jim Chown replied:

- (a) The Public Transport Authority (PTA) is preparing documentation to support an Expression of Interest (EOI) to go to the market to evaluate the provision of free Wi-Fi across public transport services. It is expected that the EOI will go to the market by the end of June 2015.
- (b) (i)–(iii) One of the purposes of the EOI is to establish costs for the installation of a free Wi Fi service across the bus, ferry and train networks and to investigate potential funding options with service providers.
- (c) (i)–(iii) One of the purposes of the EOI is to establish annual operating costs for the provision of a free Wi-Fi service across the bus, ferry and train networks and to investigate potential funding options with service providers.
- (d) The PTA is investigating the following with regards to the provision of Wi-Fi services:
 - Available technologies;
 - Quality of service and performance specifications;
 - Access and security;
 - Interference with other PTA systems;
 - Infrastructure requirements (fibre, power, space);
 - Installation of equipment to 'A' and 'B' series trains, different bus models and ferries;
 - Installation of equipment to train stations, bus stations and ferry jetties;
 - Capital and operating costs and funding options.