

WESTRAIL, ABORIGINAL LIAISON OFFICERS

25. Hon Bob Thomas to the Minister for Transport:

With regard to the advertisement in The West Australian on December 11 1999 for an Aboriginal liaison officer

- (1) Has this position been filled?
- (2) How many such Aboriginal liaison officers are employed by Westrail?
- (3) What are their duties?
- (4) Are they involved in train patrol duties accompanied by security officers?
- (5) Has Westrail employed female as well as male persons in this capacity?
- (6) Is it intended to recruit liaison officers from other ethnic backgrounds?
- (7) Where are the liaison officers required to carry out their duties?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Four.
- (3) Personal action and participation in strategies to provide a safe and secure environment for passengers on the urban railway system.

Travel on trains to ensure necessary liaison is provided to balance the cultural needs of persons of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent with the needs of the general community.

Conduct mobile patrols and attend to security requirements.

Liaise with Aboriginal Organisations.
- (4)-(5) Yes.
- (6) Not at this time.
- (7) On the urban railway system.