

GRAIN TRANSPORT — LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

**527. Hon RICK MAZZA to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:**

Due to an expected reduction in this year's grain harvest, CBH Group has closed 98 of its 198 grain bins and, as a result, many producers will be required to transport grain over longer distances to a reduced number of silos. Many of the remaining silos will experience large increases in the number of vehicle movements.

- (1) Is the minister aware of the likelihood of the greater impact on the condition and deterioration of some local roads?
- (2) If yes, has the minister identified the roads most likely to be affected?
- (3) Given that the local government authorities have been advised that their road grants are to be reduced as a result of campaigning against vehicle licensing and stamp duty exemptions, how will local councils be funded to maintain roads impacted by an increase in grain haulage vehicles?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(2) CBH released a network strategy in 2016. Main Roads Western Australia will continue to liaise with CBH in monitoring the impact of its strategy on regional roads.
- (3) There will be an increase in local road grants in 2017–18 compared with grants in 2016–17.