

OPTUS STADIUM — PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

888. Hon JIM CHOWN to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:

My question is in regard to the Optus Stadium pedestrian bridge design changes.

- (1) Along with the aesthetic changes, the revised design eliminates 275 tonnes of secondary steel from the 50 arch modules. Please advise how this change in design will affect the bridge structure and its ability to carry out its intended purpose?
- (2) When was this design change decided upon and why?
- (3) Does this revised design of eliminating 275 tonnes of steel from the original design specifications present a cost saving overall; and, if not, why not?
- (4) An article in *The West Australian* dated 25 June 2017 states that, “There will also be new site assembly costs”.
 - (a) What is the monetary value of these new site assembly costs?
 - (b) Are these costs in addition to the revised overall bridge cost of \$83 million?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

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

- (1) The elimination of the need for the 275 tonnes of secondary steel made redundant by the design to not clad the bridge does not affect the ability of the bridge structure to carry out its intended purpose as a pedestrian bridge. The removal of this steel will improve the integrity of the structure by removing weight.
- (2) Following consideration of advice from Main Roads Western Australia and York Rizzani Joint Venture, the option of removing the fabric covering from the bridge was adopted and was announced on 23 November 2017.
- (3) Cost savings from the removal of the fabric covering are estimated to be in the order of \$4 million in construction and a further \$11 million in maintenance and replacement costs over the first 40 years in the life of the structure. However, other possible facilities, such as supplementary walkway structures, are being investigated that may incur some costs but will provide ongoing opportunities for additional revenue.
- (4)
 - (a) The laydown cost is \$6 million.
 - (b) Yes. The 2017–18 budget allocation of \$91.5 million comprised \$83 million in construction costs, \$6 million in laydown costs and \$2.5 million for associated bus stand facilities in Nelson Street in East Perth that were not previously funded.