

NICHOLSON ROAD — GRADE SEPARATION

1765. Hon Ken Travers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Has the business case for the grade separation of Nicholson Road level crossing at Thornlie been completed?
- (2) If yes to (1), will the Minister provide a copy of it and, if not, why not?
- (3) What is the estimated cost of this project?
- (4) What are the estimated benefits of this project?
- (5) Can the Minister please provide a breakdown of the benefits and their estimated value by categories used in the business case?
- (6) What was the benefit cost ratio for the project?

Hon Jim Chown replied:

- (1) Yes
- (2) This project is currently under consideration by Government.
- (3) Estimated cost of \$36 million.
- (4) There are a range of benefits, but the key ones are safety in terms of removing the chance of a rail crossing accident, and reductions in traffic congestion which has clear economic benefits. Other benefits are vehicle operating cost savings, commercial time savings, private travel time savings, savings on level crossing maintenance (operating cost savings) and asset residual value.
- (5) See answer to (2) above.
- (6) A BCR of 3.3 at a discount rate of 4 per cent or 2.1 at 7 per cent.