

SOUTH WEST ROADS — FUNDING

1000. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the section of Goldfields Highway linking Meekatharra and Wiluna, and ask:

- (a) what funding was budgeted in 2012–2013 for upgrading and sealing this road:
 - (i) if applicable, of the budgeted funds, have any been acquitted; and
 - (ii) if no funding was budgeted, why not;
- (b) is funding proposed for the Goldfields Highway connecting Meekatharra and Wiluna in the 2013–2014 Budget:
 - (i) if applicable, how much funding has been allocated and over what time frame;
 - (ii) if applicable, of this funding allocation, what specific projects will be funded; and
 - (iii) if no funding was proposed, why not;
- (c) does the Department of Transport acknowledge that the Shires of Wiluna and Meekatharra have had repairs to the abovementioned road listed as a priority for many years:
 - (i) if yes, what assessments will be undertaken by the Department of Transport to ensure this road obtains priority funding; and
 - (ii) if no to (c), why not; and
- (d) can you advise from 1 October 2008 until receipt of this question the number of times the Shires of Wiluna and Meekatharra has contacted the Department of Transport about this section of road?

Mr T.R. Buswell replied:

The **Main Roads Western Australia** advises:

- (a) \$10m
 - (i) \$1 007 230
 - (ii) Not applicable
- (b) Yes
 - (i) \$10 192 770 in 2013–14.
 - (ii) Upgrade of unsealed Highway to create safe passing opportunities for vehicles passing road trains at regular intervals along the unsealed sections of Highway.
 - (iii) Not applicable.
- (c) Yes
 - (i) Main Roads considers funding for this road during annual budget deliberations.
- (d) Although Main Roads is unable to provide a definitive number of approaches from the Shires of Wiluna and Meekatharra, it acknowledges that these Councils have raised this matter on occasion over the years.