

MOTOR VEHICLES, OVERSIZE

**96. Hon W.N. STRETCH to the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the registration, regulation and training of vehicle drivers escorting oversize loads on public roads.

- (1) What is the current law?
- (2) What is the approximate cost of appropriate training?
- (3) What is the cost of licensing -
  - (a) the driver; and
  - (b) the escort vehicle?
- (4) (a) Does the same law currently apply to the movements of oversize farm vehicles and escorts on public roads, or in what respect do different rules apply?
  - (b) Is there any proposal to alter the rules applying to such farm vehicle movements?

**Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:**

- (1) The Road Traffic Code and vehicle standards regulation control the specifications and road rules for vehicles travelling on public roads in Western Australia. Under regulation 103 of the Road Traffic Code, an "accredited pilot" means a person who has successfully completed a training course in the pilotage of over-dimensional vehicles, being a course which is provided by a person registered by the Training Accreditation Council as a training provider under section 27(1)(a) of the Vocational Education and Training Act 1996 and accredited by that council under section 27(1)(b) of that Act.
- (1) The cost of the training course determined by the court provider is understood to be in the order of \$735.
- (2) (a) No additional charges apply over and above the cost of the training course.
  - (b) The cost of licensing the escort vehicle is the normal registration fee that applies and would depend on the vehicle used.
- (3) (a) The movement of oversize farm vehicles that fall into the category of self-propelled or towed agricultural implements is jointly administered by Transport and Main Roads. Self-propelled vehicles are subject to conditional licensing and may require a pilot escort depending on their size. The movement of towed agricultural implements is covered in the Road Traffic (Towed Agricultural Implements) Regulations 1995 that do not require an accredited pilot.

Within a 30-kilometre radius of the Perth GPO, Main Roads issues permits according to the same rules that cover the movement of over-dimensional loads. Accredited pilots are a requirement for permits issued by Main Roads.

  - (b) A review is being undertaken of the Road Traffic Code 1975. The issue of accredited pilots and pilots for agricultural implements is yet to be resolved and will be subject to further discussion and consultation as part of this review process.