

ROAD TRAUMA TRUST ACCOUNT — ROAD FATALITIES — REGIONAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA

100. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Leader of the National Party:

Mr Speaker —

Mrs G.J. Godfrey interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Belmont, I call you to order for the first time.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! I want to hear the member for Collie–Preston.

Mr M.P. MURRAY: I refer to the 32 people killed on country roads this year and the tragic loss of 11 lives on the recent long weekend.

- (1) What representations has the Leader of the National Party made to the Minister for Road Safety to have the application for rumble strips and wire barriers on regional roads approved from the road trauma trust fund?
- (2) Why does the Leader of the National Party not push for extra police overtime and extra traffic patrols on country roads, especially on long weekends; and, if he will not, why not?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

I thank the member for Collie–Preston for the question.

(1)–(2) The responsibility for the road trauma trust fund lies with the Minister for Road Safety —

Mr M.P. Murray: Handball!

Mr D.T. REDMAN: The member is asking a question in this place of a minister who does not have carriage of a particular portfolio. That rests with the Minister for Road Safety.

Mr D.J. Kelly interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bassendean, I have been pretty lenient on you. I call you to order for the first time. Member for Albany, I do not want to hear from you.

Mr D.T. REDMAN: That said, I have had conversations with the Minister for Road Safety, and quite rightly so. There are challenges on our regional roads. Certainly, what happened during the long weekend in Western Australia was unacceptable. Everyone in this house accepts that. I am not sure I agree with the opposition's position about putting a particular account for royalties for regions directly into roads. Since being in government we have invested something like \$160 million from royalties for regions into roads. I might add, the last point the member for Collie–Preston made related to policing in regional Western Australia. I remember when we came into government those opposite had closed six stations in regional Western Australia. To sit here and say they support a position that says more policing in the regions when, off the back of their government, in 2005 they closed six police stations in regional Western Australia, how the hell does that add up? How does that add up?

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Albany, I call you to order for the second time.

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I do not know how the opposition can stand on high ground and say it supports extra police in regional Western Australia. It was going to shut them down. This government turned that right around. This government ensured that there is strong policing in regional Western Australia.