

HENRY TAX REVIEW — FOUR-WHEEL-DRIVE VEHICLES

566. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Minister for Regional Development:

I refer —

Mr F.M. Logan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Cockburn!

Mr M.P. MURRAY: I will start again, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Yes; please do, member.

I refer to the government's submission to the Henry tax review and the suggestion in that submission to raise the level of taxes on four-wheel-drive vehicles. As Minister for Regional Development and Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport, and in light of the fact that in rural areas four-wheel-drive vehicles are often purchased because of necessity —

- (1) Does the minister endorse the submission made by his Liberal-National Party government?
- (2) Will the minister be producing his own separate submissions to this review, without including the suggested four-wheel-drive tax; and, if not, why is the minister letting the Treasurer undermine the choices made by rural four-wheel-drive owners?
- (3) Did this submission go to cabinet, and when was the minister made aware of it?

Mr B.J. GRYLLS replied:

- (1)-(3) I thank the member for Collie-Preston for the question. I am aware of the Henry review. A discussion document was put forward by departments across the jurisdictions in Western Australia, and different ideas were put forward. The broad context of what the member is saying appeared in that submission document to the Henry review. I agree with the member—I think it would be a negative step to go down that path, because it does not recognise that many people in regional areas buy themselves a larger vehicle both for safety and because of the fact that they travel greater distances than do people in the metropolitan area. I for one, and I am sure most people in this Parliament, would not support that going forward.

Dr J.M. WOOLLARD: Mr Speaker —