

LATE-NIGHT TRAINS

28. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Are all late night trains that are due to be cancelled free?
- (2) If no, which ones are free?
- (3) Why are they free services?
- (4) Will the government continue to make the last trains on Friday and Saturday nights free?
- (5) Does the government expect an increase in the number of passengers using the new last trains; and, if yes, what does it intend to do to manage this increase?

Hon JIM CHOWN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Both the 1.15 am and 2.15 am late night services are currently free.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The decision to make the services free was made in the interests of public safety so that transit officers could avoid the possibility of confrontational issues arising with often intoxicated passengers over minor ticketing issues.
- (4) The government will continue to monitor patronage numbers until the service ends in April. If there is evidence of a sustained increase in patronage, the government will review the Public Transport Authority's decision.
- (5) There is sufficient capacity on current services to accommodate patronage.