

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY — EQUIPMENT INSPECTORS

2236. Hon Ken Travers to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How many staff are currently employed to inspect:
 - (a) high voltage conductor cables;
 - (b) booster transformers and associated surge arrestors; and
 - (c) other similar equipment on the Perth urban rail network?
- (2) How many staff in (1) are:
 - (a) employees of the Public Transport Authority; and
 - (b) contract staff?
- (3) Have any changes been made to the work practices or procedures for staff engaged in the inspection of overhead catenary equipment since 1 January 2012 and, if yes, please specify the changes?
- (4) Have any changes been made to the inspection , visual check or maintenance schedules of the equipment in (1) since 1 January 2012 and, if yes, please specify?

Hon Jim Chown replied:

- (1) (a)–(c) There are 33 staff in total who undertake inspections of overhead catenary equipment which includes high voltage conductor cables, booster transformers, surge arrestors and other similar equipment on the urban rail network.
- (2) (a)–(b) The 33 staff are employed by the Public Transport Authority (PTA) and contract staff are used on an ad hoc basis to provide additional site protection resources.
- (3) Yes. Procedures have been updated to specify new and more advanced materials. Accordingly, processes have been updated to improve work planning for overhead line work in line with international best practice.
- (4) Yes. The PTA are currently undertaking a system wide accelerated inspection and defect removal programme. This is the first phase of an improvement program to achieve sustainable improvements in overhead line equipment performance. Accordingly, new work instructions have been developed which cover both visual and hands on inspection tasks.