

SOUTH WEST ROADS — FUNDING

983. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the Bussell Highway through Bramley Forest in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, and ask:

- (a) what funding was budgeted in 2012–2013 for repairs and maintenance to the abovementioned section of road:
 - (i) if applicable, what specific project is this funding allocation for (e.g. shoulder maintenance, resealing, widening etc.);
 - (ii) if applicable, of the budgeted funds have any been acquitted; and
 - (iii) if no funding was budgeted, why not;
- (b) is funding proposed for the abovementioned section of road in the 2013–2014 Budget:
 - (i) if applicable, what funding has been allocated and over what time frame;
 - (ii) if applicable, of the funding allocation, what specific projects have been funded; and
 - (iii) if no funding was proposed, why not;
- (c) does the Department of Transport acknowledge that the Shire of Augusta Margaret River has had repairs to the abovementioned section of road listed as a priority for many years:
 - (i) if yes, what assessments will be undertaken by the Department of Transport to ensure this section of road obtains priority funding; and
 - (ii) if no to (c), why not;
- (d) can the Minister advise from 1 October 2008 until receipt of this question the number of times the Shire of Augusta Margaret River has contacted the Department of Transport about this section of road;
- (e) has legislation been drafted to excise an area of the Bramley National Park so road safety improvements can proceed, and if not, why not; and
- (f) when does the Department of Transport envisage legislation allowing for road improvements on Bussell Highway, through Bramley Forest, will be ready?

Mr T.R. Buswell replied:

The **Main Roads Western Australia** advises:

- (a) \$111 488
 - (i) Design and preconstruction works for the project to widen and construct a passing lane.
 - (ii) \$92 921
 - (iii) Not applicable.
- (b) Yes
 - (i)–(iii) The final funding allocation for the proposed project is being considered for final approval.
- (c) Yes
 - (i) Funding needs across the State are constantly being assessed to determine project benefits.
 - (ii) Not applicable.
- (d) It is acknowledged that the Shire of Augusta Margaret River has raised this matter on a number of occasions and as highlighted issues raised are constantly assessed across the State.
- (e) It is understood that the submissions to Parliament have been prepared.
- (f) These submissions are outside of the control of the Main Roads. The submissions are presented to Parliament by the Minister for Environment (State Forest component) and Minister for Lands (National Park component). It is understood that these submissions will be presented in the near future.