

BUSES, GAS FUELLED AND FUEL CELL TRIALS

533. Hon Jim Scott to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

(1) In view of the Minister's recent commitment to sustainable transport can she indicate how many of Perth's buses -

- (a) run on diesel fuel;
- (b) run on natural gas;
- (c) run on LPG; and
- (d) what other fuels are used and by how many buses?

(2) Does the Minister intend to phase out diesel buses and replace them with gas fuelled buses?

(3) Is the Government committed to participating in the international fuel cell bus trials?

(4) If not, why not?

(5) If yes, when will these buses arrive in Perth?

Hon GRAHAM GIFFARD replied:

(1) (a) 910

(b) 99

(c) two

(d) Transperth is currently assessing tenders for a trial of biofuel.

(2) The Government has a bus replacement program that requires 451 buses to be supplied between now and 2010/11 and all of these will be natural gas. As these new buses enter service the older diesel buses will be sold off.

(3) Yes, this Government is committed to the fuel cell trial.

(4) N/A

(5) The latest advice from DaimlerChrysler on the delivery date for the fuel cell buses is April 2004.