

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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**QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE
(Of which some notice has been given)**

Thursday, 9 May 2013

Hon Robin Chapple to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport

In regard to regional road safety, in circumstances where highways traverse the paddocks of pastoral lease properties and where these are either unfenced or the fencing is poorly maintained, I ask:

1. Is the Minister aware that there are large numbers of cattle roaming on the Great Northern Highway, especially in the section between the Broome/Derby Shire boundary and the Derby turnoff?
2. Is the Minister aware that this poses a hazardous, costly and potentially lethal situation for motorists and stock?
3. If yes to 1 and 2, what actions is the Minister taking to address the situation in order to make driving safer and reduce stock losses?
4. Will the Minister consider emulating the Queensland Government's solution to a similar problem, whereby the Department of Transport constructs and maintains highway fencing?
5. If no to 4 why not?

I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

Main Roads WA advises:

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) An Advisory Group for the management of straying livestock in pastoral regions was set up in 2012 which is chaired by Main Roads and includes members from the Pastoral Lands Board, Pastoralists and Graziers Association, and State and Local Government agencies. The group has been looking at a range of initiatives to reduce the incidence of stock related crashes on the State's road network in pastoral regions.

(4)-(5) While Main Roads' fencing policy is already similar to its Queensland counterpart, the Advisory Group is looking at further aligning with fencing policies of other states.

