



Speech by

Mrs J. SHELDON

MEMBER FOR CALOUNDRA

Hansard 28 October 1999

ROAD NOISE, CALOUNDRA ELECTORATE

Mrs SHELDON (Caloundra—LP) (10.20 a.m.): I have been trying to get justice for some of my constituents since last July regarding road noise problems that residents of Golf Links Estate and surrounding areas, such as Milbong Street and Beerburum Street, have to live with. These houses are along and near the Nicklin Way. The noise has been exacerbated by the removal by the Main Roads Department of a shrubby buffer zone on the Nicklin Way. The noise and exhaust pollution that is now occurring since the removal of thick brush and trees from both sides of the Nicklin Way has been the catalyst for 128 residents signing a petition to the Minister for Transport, Mr Bredhauer, which I will table. The petition reads—

"It is with deep concern, we the undersigned bring to your attention the shocking detrimental conditions created by the removal of thick brush & trees from both sides of Nicklin Way to the intersection of Beerburum St. which formed an excellent buffer zone. The road noise & exhaust pollution is unacceptable.

The immediate erection of a suitable acoustic paling fence & the replanting of thick bush brush in the mulch would thus eliminate aforesaid problems, and, very importantly, the devaluation of our homes & property."

The only answer I can get from the department has been that the delay in responding has been due to noise levels being taken and that, at present, this road does not warrant noise barriers because certain noise levels have not been reached. This does not take into consideration the factor that the road runs through a gully in a hill and the noise obviously rises and magnifies.

I ask the Minister to act immediately to see that commonsense enters this debate and that he organises the erection of suitable noise barriers and vegetation to provide adequate relief for these people. They deserve to have a reasonable lifestyle, which has been interrupted and will continue to be interrupted as long as this bureaucratic nonsense continues.
