

## Question on Notice

No. 118

Asked on 14 February 2008

Mr Malone asked the Minister for Main Roads and Local Government (MR PITT) -

### QUESTION:

With reference to the Peak Downs Highway from the coalfields to Mackay- Will he advise (a) the status of all planning and any land purchase/resumption (reported separately) for the much-needed upgrades, (b) the timelines for work on the highway for sections to be upgraded and what budget allocations, if any, have been made for works on the highway, particularly including all details and budget allocations (reported separately) for the section of the bypass around Walkerston and (c) the budget allocations for the financial years 2006-07, 2007-08 (reported separately) and for the future allocations for each financial year for this project (reported separately)?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mirani for the question.

- a) Main Roads is continuing the Traffic Investigations at Walkerston, which would take the heavy and dangerous goods vehicles out of Walkerston. Community consultation was completed in November 2007 with over 450 submissions received. This community feedback has been vital in shaping the direction of the proposed Walkerston bypass.

No resumptions have currently taken place as the preferred option is still being determined. Main Roads consulted with potentially affected stakeholders in late 2007, and will continue to do so when the preferred route is determined.

b)

- In 2007-08 Main Roads is spending \$7.5m on the Peak Downs Highway. This includes work on provisions of overtaking lanes and widening.
- Between 2007-08 and 2009-10 \$10.9m will be spent on further widening of existing pavements on the Peak Downs Highway.
- During 2008-09 and 2009-10 Main Roads will spend \$1.1m to improve safety on the Eton Range.
- Main Roads is committed to spending \$6.2m to widen and rehabilitate the Sandy Creek Bridge and approaches at Eton in 2009-10.
- \$300 000 has been allocated for planning including the Walkerston bypass.
- At this stage no funding has been allocated for the construction of the proposed Walkerston bypass.

- c) In the past 5 years Main Roads has spent \$54.5m on the Peak Downs Highway
- In 2006-07 Main Roads spent \$14.8m
  - In 2007-08 Main Roads is spending \$7.5m
  - In 2008-09 Main Roads will spend \$15.5m
  - In 2009-10 Main Roads will spend \$13.3m
  - In 2010-11 Main Roads will spend \$7.5m
  - In 2011-12 Main Roads will spend \$9.8m

This compares to the 1996-97 & 1997-98 Coalition Government expenditure of \$15.4m.