Question on Notice

No. 1778

Asked on Wednesday, 12 October 2016

MR SEENEY asked the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply (HON M BAILEY) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the Burnett Highway in my electorate and particularly the overhead railway bridge at Monto—

Will the Minister advise what plans the department has for this obsolete overhead rail bridge and the associated dangerous intersections on each side of the bridge now that the rail line has been removed?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Callide for the question.

My department completed a Safer Roads Sooner project on the Burnett Highway in the vicinity of the Gladstone–Monto Road and rail overbridge in Monto in 2011. The works involved changes to the linemarking to minimise the number of lanes approaching each intersection and improve visibility. Signage was upgraded to include reflective target boards and raised pavement markers were installed to delineate motorists when travelling through the intersections at night.

My department has investigated options for a long-term solution in this area, however funding for any upgrade would be subject to competing priorities across the state. That competition has become more challenging as a consequence of more than \$600 million having been cut from transport funding during the term of the previous government, which also spent more than \$30 million of the Department of Transport and Main Road's budget preparing for asset sales and contestability.