

Question on Notice

No. 2210

Asked on Tuesday, 29 November 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 the Callide Electorate—

Will the Minister advise (a) when plans were first drawn up for the upgrade of the intersection of the Burnett Highway and Powers Road, (b) what work has been undertaken since planning to upgrade this intersection began, (c) what priority the department gives to the upgrade of this intersection in its future planning for the Burnett Highway and (d) whether this intersection will ever be upgraded under this government?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Callide for the question.

An upgrade of this intersection was conducted in 2006 to install a basic right turn treatment at the Burnett Highway and Powers Road intersection. This work was conducted as part of a road widening project on the Burnett Highway north of Monto.

In 2013 the Department of Transport and Main Roads assessed the intersection according to risk based on crash history, traffic volumes, intersection layout, road characteristics and environment. The results of this review ranked the intersection a low priority for the district.

For this reason, there are currently no plans to upgrade this intersection, as was the case under the previous government of which the Member for Callide served as Deputy Premier.

Should this change, 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.