



**Australian Government**

**Department of Transport and Regional Services**

The Secretary  
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and  
Transport Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By e-mail transmission: [rrat.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:rrat.sen@aph.gov.au)

Dear Ms Weeks

Subject: Inquiry into the AusLink Bills

Please find attached answers to questions taken on notice during the Department's attendance at the Committee's 18 March 2005 hearing into the AusLink Bills.

I confirm that departmental officers will be able to appear before the Committee again, as requested, on 12 April 2005. It would help the Department to prepare further information to meet the Committee's needs if some indication of the areas the members wish to further explore could be provided.

I trust the attached answers provide satisfactory responses to the Committee's initial questions. We will be happy to provide further elaboration, if required, when we appear before the Committee next week.

Yours sincerely

*signed*

John Elliott  
General Manager  
AusLink Planning

7 April 2005

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Transport and Regional Services**

Department of Transport and Regional Services

Public Hearing of the Committee's inquiry into the provisions of the AusLink  
(National Land Transport) Bill 2004 and the AusLink (National Land Transport –  
Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004

18 March 2005

**Topic: AusLink Strategic Regional Programme**

**Hansard Page: 4**

**Output: Programmes Group – Transport & Local Government**

**Senator O'Brien asked:** You earlier told us about the consultations and the preparation of drafts in relation to the original \$400 million over four years proposal; when were those drafts supplied to the Minister?

**Answer:**

Advice was provided to the Minister on 3 June and 6 July 2004. This advice dealt with proposed programme processes and possible eligibility and assessment criteria for selection of projects.

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

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Department of Transport and Regional Services

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18 March 2005

**Topic: Roads to Recovery**

**Hansard Page: 5**

**Output: Programmes Group – Transport & Local Government**

**Senator O'Brien asked:** Perhaps on notice you can give us an understanding of how that money [\$30 million for unincorporated roads] will be allocated?

**Answer:**

The funding to each jurisdiction within the \$30 million is based on road length as assessed by the Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics.

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
NSW	\$2.515m
Victoria	\$0.064m
South Australia	\$10.785m
Northern Territory	\$16m
Indian Ocean Territories	\$0.636m
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30m</b>

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

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18 March 2005

**Topic:** *Roads to Recovery*

**Hansard Page:** 11

**Output:** Programmes Group – Transport & Local Government

**Senator McGauran asked:** Bairnsdale was given some funds last year to build a cycling track. ... in the city of Bright a cycling track was built along old railway lines ... [not from Roads to Recovery]. Would it be eligible for funding under these criteria?

**Answer:**

No, the *Roads to Recovery Act* (the Act) provides that payments under the *Roads to Recovery* Programme can only be used 'on the construction, upgrade or maintenance of roads'. In addition to the normal meaning, the Act defines 'roads' to include cycle paths but only when associated with a road.

**Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

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Department of Transport and Regional Services

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18 March 2005

**Topic: AusLink Strategic Regional Programme**

**Hansard Page: 12**

**Output: Programmes Group – Transport & Local Government**

**Senator O'Brien asked:** Can you give us a breakdown of the total amount committed under the strategic regional projects by state and by electorate ?

**Answer:**

<b>NSW</b>	<b>COMMITMENT</b>	<b>ELECTORATE</b>
Princes Highway & Pambula River Bridge	\$20.0m	Gilmore & Eden-Monaro
Bateman's Bay Bypass	\$10.0m	Eden-Monaro
Wyong Warnervale Link Road	\$2.5m	Dobell
Camden Valley Way – Raby Road	\$1.0m	Macarthur
Bondi Beach	\$2.0m	Wentworth
Lakes Way and Dungog Road	\$10.0m	Paterson
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$45.5m</b>	
<b>Vic</b>		
Great Alpine Road	\$6.5m	Gippsland
Metung Boardwalk	\$0.5m	Gippsland
Yan Yean Road	\$0.16m	McEwen
Bryn Mawr	\$10.0m	La Trobe
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17.16m</b>	

<b>Qld</b>	<b>COMMITMENT</b>	<b>ELECTORATE</b>
Tablelands Road	\$0.6m	Hinkler
River Heads Road	\$0.8m	Wide Bay
Bribie Island Road	\$0.125m	Longman
Daintree Causeway	\$0.5m	Leichhardt
Outback Highway (Qld share)	\$3.0m	Kennedy & Maranoa
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5.025m</b>	
<b>WA</b>		
Outback Highway	\$2.52m	Kalgoorlie
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2.52m</b>	
<b>Tas</b>		
Sisters Hill	\$15.0m	Braddon
North Eastern Tasmanian Roads	\$3.0m	Bass
Port Sorell Main Road	\$0.5m	Braddon
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18.5m</b>	
<b>NT</b>		
Outback Highway	\$4.48m	Lingiari
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4.48m</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$93.185m</b>	