



SOUTH-EAST METROPOLITAN

More train patrols needed

PASSENGER SAFETY FEARS

SWAN MP Steve Irons is calling for more transit officers to fight crime across Perth's metropolitan train network.

In October, Mr Irons conducted a Tackling Train Crime survey for passengers using the Armadale-Thornlie train line to gain feedback about their perception of safety.

With 247 responses, Mr Irons said passengers emphasised the need for more transit officers on Perth's train network

"I believe transit officers should patrol all metropolitan train stations from 6pm until the last train, 365 days a year, with additional officers hired by the Public Transport Authority (PTA) to meet this need," he said.

"At a minimum, the Armadale-Thornlie train line should be trialled in this capacity, given that it continues to be identified as Perth's most dangerous."

SURVEY RESULTS

RESULTS FROM THE TACKLING TRAIN CRIME SURVEY REVEALED:

■ 80.43 per cent of respondents feel unsafe or



DO YOU FEEL SAFE ON PERTH TRAINS? DO YOU THINK MORE TRANSIT OFFICERS ARE THE ANSWER TO HELPING COMBAT CRIME?

Add your comment at www.inmycommunity.com.au

Mr Irons said if the State's security model was not improved and alternative systems reviewed or trailed, crime across the train network would remain at unacceptable levels.

He believes Victoria's Protective Service Officer (PSO) program was an effective model in reducing vio-

lent and anti-social behaviour.

PTA figures showed more than one in three assaults on passengers in 2012 occurred along the Armadale-Thornlie train line.

However, Acting Transport Minister John Day said the current transit security model was working, with as-

very unsafe using Perth's train services at night.

■ 86.9 per cent of respondents avoid using train services after 7pm.

■ All respondents called for more transit officers to patrol metropolitan platforms from 6pm until the last train, 365 days a year.

CRIME HOTSPOTS

The top five train platforms identified from the Tackling Train Crime survey as being crime hotspots on the Armadale and Thornlie train lines are:

1. Oats Street
2. Burswood
3. Carlisle
4. Cannington
5. Armadale

Safety fears... Swan MP Steve Irons.

Picture: Marcelo Palacios

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saults and dangerous behaviour down.

"There are more transit officers working at the PTA than ever before - more than 260 in total," he said.

"In addition, a new group of about 20 transit officers started training on Monday, January 12."

The PTA was aware the Armadale Line posed challenges, which was why it had more security staff than any other line.

Mr Day said the PTA's central monitoring room took a direct feed from about 1600 cameras at stations and had access to an extra 8500 cameras inside railcars and buses.

Of those, 270 cameras are on the Armadale and Thornlie lines.