



# MP can't get reception

ALEX MUNRO

THE Opposition has accused the State Government of side-stepping questions over the Geraldton rollout of a critical police radio upgrade.

In Parliament last week Opposition Minister for the Mid West Brian Ellis futilely questioned the Government over when Mid West areas would receive the Tasking and Dispatch Information System.

"But when I questioned the Minister, he took his usual sideways step and said: 'The

government is considering options to update the police regional network',” Mr Ellis told the *Geraldton Guardian*.

“According to the Road Safety Council’s Grant Dorrington, people are four times more likely to die on country roads and yet country police are having to leave the scene and drive to hilltops to get within mobile range, or get truck drivers to radio for help in emergencies.”

TADIS was rolled out across metropolitan Perth in February, which prompted Mr

Ellis to first ask when country police would receive TADIS.

Last week was the fourth time since March Mr Ellis had lobbied the Government over when country police would receive radio upgrades.

Acting Police Minister Eric Ripper later told the *Geraldton Guardian*: “While TADIS is not yet available in police vehicles in regional WA, country police officers can access National Search through radio communication with their stations which

they couldn't do before January this year.

“The implementation of the communications project is a huge undertaking in a state the size of ours. The Government is committed to the continual upgrade of facilities, resources and technology available to police throughout WA. Police will continue to work on a ... cost-effective solution which would enable the expansion of TADIS to regional areas.”