

**DRUG DRIVING**  
**26 September 2006**

**The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Road Safety a question about drug driving.

**The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD:** Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia has recently released a report entitled 'Risk perception and drug driving among illicit drug users in Adelaide'—a survey of some 91 illicit drug users. It is a very interesting report—one which I encourage members to read. Some 40 per cent of the 91 people surveyed believe that using cannabis or methamphetamine actually improves their driving performance—and I note that they are the two drugs for which the government was testing before its recent change of heart on pure ecstasy; 58 per cent of the group surveyed considered it 'not at all dangerous' (in their own words) to drive under the influence of cannabis; and 40 per cent held the same view about methamphetamine. However, alarmingly, 22 per cent of the survey group reported having had an accident or coming close to having an accident while driving under the influence of an illicit drug—20 of the 91 surveyed; so 20 incidents from a sample group of just 91 illicit drug users where they, their passengers and other road users were put at risk due to mixing illicit drugs and driving.

National surveys quoted in the DASSA report indicate that after cannabis the most common drugs that people drug drive with are heroin, amphetamines, cocaine and other opioids. My questions are:

1. What investigations are the minister and officers in her department conducting to include other amphetamine variants—heroin, cocaine, opioids, benzodiazepines, ketamine, inhalants, fantasy and other illicit drugs—in the drug-driving testing regime?
  
2. When does the minister plan to include any such drugs in the drug-driving trials?