

Supplementary
Submission
No 18b

**THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SYDNEY'S NORTH-WEST
SECTOR**

Name: Mr Michael Belfield

Date received: 1/10/2008

Re: Cash-back on the M4 freeway is unfair.

This waste of public money was offered to residents of the western suburbs because it was reasoned that these people had poor transport facilities available to them and needed to use the M4. This was never a valid reason for the people of the western suburbs DO have a first class train service to them.

Take residents of Blacktown for example. In peak hours they have 12 trains to the city between 7am and 8am. Off peak it drops to 6 trains at midday. Out at Penrith the number of train services is 9 and 4 respectively. This is hardly deserving of subsidising residents of western suburbs for the use of a freeway.

This is unfair because we residents of the Hills are still waiting for a train. We do have a satisfactory bus service to the city CBD, but if we should decide to drive to the city we have 3 tolls each way, the M2, the Lane Cove Tunnel and then the Bridge/Harbour Tunnel. It is no better if we should go to the Airport either.

I submit that at the next State Budget the Government should terminate paying the Cash Back and start saving for a rail service to go into the Hills area.