




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 3 November 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Rail, Timetable

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games) (3.52 pm), by leave: During question time today, I advised the House that my office had been advised of likely cancellations to tomorrow's Queensland Rail services. Following question time, I met with the acting CEO and other Queensland Rail personnel to be briefed on the nature of these service changes. As I have said since Tuesday, it is apparent that the former CEO's assurance that the interim timetable was sustainable was not correct. This is deeply disappointing. As a consequence of the interim timetable not delivering, the Premier ordered a permanent timetable be developed for the remainder of the year. That new seven-day timetable for the rest of 2016 will be released tomorrow and commence on Monday.

Tomorrow, however, there will be a required diminution of services across the rail network as we shift to the new sustainable 2016 timetable. Tomorrow we will be delivering 1,197 services on the CityTrain network. This means there will be 113 fewer services than the interim timetable, spread across the timetable. These services have been limited to off-peak times where possible. For customers with wait times of more than 30 minutes, alternative transport will be offered by station staff. TransLink and Queensland Rail will be communicating these changes immediately.

Tomorrow's cancellations rip the bandaid off the running sore that is an interim timetable that is not reliable enough for commuters. Commuters do not just want regular services; they want consistent services and a timetable they can rely upon. I again thank the hardworking train crew and station staff across the entire Queensland Rail network. That is my focus going forward. I thank the House.