

Question on Notice

No. 113

Asked on 25 February 2021

MR S MINNIKIN ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide the scope of works for the project 'New Generation Rollingstock, European Train Control System fitment, install new signalling' (Investment ID 1805139) from the 2020–21 to 2023–24 Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

The scope of works for the New Generation Rollingstock (NGR), European Train Control System (ETCS) fitment, is to install new signalling equipment on the NGR fleet. ETCS has a range of benefits across the South East Queensland (SEQ) network, including enabling trains to operate closer together and therefore more frequently, supporting platform screen doors on Cross River Rail underground stations, and improving safety through automatic train protection including on the North Coast line.

The NGR trains were designed and built so that ETCS equipment could be retrofitted once an ETCS solution for the SEQ rail network was identified. Project works will include the design and fitment of rollingstock-based equipment for ETCS, automatic train operations and platform screen doors.

While the NGR trains were ordered and built overseas by the Newman Government, for which the Member for Chatsworth was Assistant Minister for Public Transport, under the Palaszczuk Labor Government, Queensland trains will be built by Queenslanders in Maryborough. We have committed to a \$1 billion rail manufacturing pipeline to lock in long-term stable manufacturing jobs across Queensland.

Our commitment includes \$600 million for the first 20 new Queensland trains to enable more frequent services when Cross River Rail becomes operational in 2025. These are being built in Maryborough, with train manufacturers invited to bid in a procurement process to build them here.

Cross River Rail will transform the way we travel across the whole of SEQ. The \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail project will create 7700 jobs throughout the life of the project and, right now, is pumping approximately \$4 million a day into our economy.

I would also remind the Member for Chatsworth that had the LNP won government, Cross River Rail would not exist. That means that right now, thousands of construction workers on Cross River Rail would not have jobs.

Cross River Rail will deliver to the network 10.2-kilometre rail line from Dutton Park to Bowen Hills that includes 5.9 kilometres of twin underground tunnels under the Brisbane River and CBD, four new underground stations, eight upgraded aboveground stations, and three new stations on the Gold Coast.

Integrating this large suite of infrastructure is not a simple task, requiring proper time and intensive planning to reach this capacity.

Cross River Rail will boost capacity and provide new underground stations in the heart of the city, critically needed for the SEQ rail network.