

Question on Notice

No. 1004

Asked on 12 October 2022

MR T WATTS ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise why a permit was not granted and a Queensland Rail owned steam train not provided or permitted to run trips from Brisbane to Toowoomba on the 17 and 18 of September to coincide with the Carnival of Flowers?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Toowoomba North for the question.

Queensland Rail was proud to support this year's Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers by providing the popular Toowoomba to Spring Bluff train shuttle services—operating two return train services per day for customers between 17–24 September 2022. These services were a great success and operated at full capacity, selling 4773 tickets.

Due to an ongoing safety investigation, the heritage wooden carriages were hauled by diesel locomotives rather than steam engine.

Queensland Rail also partnered with Southern Downs Steam Railway to run steam shuttle services using rollingstock—owned by Downs Explorer—under controlled circumstances, between Toowoomba and Wyreema for the first weekend of the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers.