

## Question on Notice

No. 327

Asked on 30 March 2023

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

### QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide the government subsidy per passenger trip for public transport services in South East Queensland (reported separately by rail, bus and light rail) for each of the last two financial years together with the forecast numbers for 2022–23 to 2024–25?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government provides significant funding through service contract payments to assist delivery partners plan and deliver bus, ferry, light rail and rail services across South East and regional Queensland. Fare revenue is collected on these services, but it does not cover all transport operator costs.

The below table is a breakdown of government subsidy per public transport passenger trip.

Government subsidy per public transport passenger trip in SEQ	Actual 2020–21 \$	Actual 2021–22 \$	Forecast 2022–23 \$	Forecast 2023–24 \$	Forecast 2024–25 \$
SEQ Rail – Citytrain	27.38	29.93	23.39	21.95	23.96
SEQ Bus	7.38	8.16	5.91	5.52	5.70
Light rail	8.16	8.00	4.47	4.44	4.48

The financial years 2020–21 and 2021–22 were heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with customers changing their office work and travel patterns reducing fare revenue collections and patronage. From 2022–23, patronage is returning toward pre-COVID-19 levels, which has resulted in a reduction of the government subsidy per passenger trip for each mode. Offsetting this, ongoing work from home arrangements have resulted in the adult cohort returning slower than other customer cohorts, impacting the fare revenue collected to offset the cost of providing services.