

Question on Notice

No. 976

Asked on 24 August 2023

MR M HART ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the installation of safety barriers for drivers on TransLink buses—

Will the Minister advise (a) the total number of buses and the number with barriers installed as of 30 June 2023 and (b) the forecast number of buses and the forecast number with barriers installed as of 30 June 2024?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Burleigh for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government is serious about providing a safe work environment for bus drivers and other frontline transport workers. In March 2022, the Palaszczuk Government announced that driver safety barriers would be a mandatory requirement for all new contracted urban buses purchased from 1 July 2022. In addition to mandating barriers for all new urban buses, the Palaszczuk Government is investing \$12.7 million over five years to roll out more bus driver barriers across the public transport network.

As at 30 June 2023, full or partial driver barriers were installed on 1841—or 67 per cent—of the 2754 Translink urban bus fleet. It is expected that, by 30 June 2024, up to 2138—or 77 per cent—of TransLink’s estimated urban bus fleet of 2764 vehicles will be fitted with full or partial driver barriers.

These numbers do not include the recently announced procurement of 200 Queensland-made buses. All of these buses will be delivered with driver safety barriers, in line with the Palaszczuk Government’s March 2022 commitment.