

Question on Notice

No. 161

Asked on 6 March 2024

MS A LEAHY ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON B MELLISH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Westland Rail Service—

Will the Minister provide (a) the annual patronage figures from 2015 to present and (b) the level of government subsidy in dollar terms for this service (both reported annually and a full breakdown of how the subsidy is applied for example, but not limited to - track maintenance, staffing, train operations and maintenance)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Warrego for the question.

Queensland Rail has a proud history of connecting communities across the State, including in the regions. Queensland Rail receives a subsidy through the Transport Services Contract (TSC) with the Department of Transport and Main Roads towards operating costs to deliver a quality regional travel service for Queensland. The TSC subsidy is allocated on total costs less revenue, and a share of return on assets (revenue margin).

The annual patronage figures on the *Westlander* from financial year 2015 to financial year 2024 to date (as at 29 February 2024) is as follows:

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| • 2014–15 – 4984 | • 2018–19 – 4298 | • 2022–23 – 4572 |
| • 2015–16 – 3677 | • 2019–20 – 3084 | • 2023–24 (as at |
| • 2016–17 – 3946 | • 2020–21 – 2999 | 29 February 2024) – |
| • 2017–18 – 4381 | • 2021–22 – 2523 | 2890. |

The annual government subsidy on the *Westlander* from the 2015 financial year to 2024 financial year (as at 29 February 2024) and how the subsidy was applied is provided below.

2015 financial year (\$000)

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| • traincrew and onboard services 4418 | • station operations 1331 | • corporate management etc) 1494 |
| • fuel 614 | • sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 197 | • depreciation 960 |
| • rollingstock maintenance 1427 | • operational support and enabling (operational and | |
| • allocation towards track maintenance 1517 | | |

2016 financial year (\$000)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| • traincrew and onboard services 3358 | • allocation towards track maintenance 1757 | • sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 171 |
| • fuel 204 | • station operations 1396 | • operational support and enabling |
| • rollingstock maintenance 2542 | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (operational and corporate | management etc) 1737 | • depreciation 969 |
| 2017 financial year (\$000) | | |
| • traincrew and onboard services 3730 | • station operations 1420 | corporate management etc) 2029 |
| • fuel 207 | • sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 182 | • depreciation 772 |
| • rollingstock maintenance 2795 | • operational support and enabling (operational and | |
| • allocation towards track maintenance 1684 | | |
| 2018 financial year (\$000) | | |
| • traincrew and onboard services 3981 | • station operations 692 | corporate management etc) 1640 |
| • fuel 233 | • sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 183 | • depreciation 1508 |
| • Rollingstock maintenance 2589 | • operational support and enabling (operational and | |
| • allocation towards track maintenance 1748 | | |
| 2019 financial year (\$000) | | |
| • traincrew and onboard services 4913 | • station operations 614 | corporate management etc) 1997 |
| • fuel 309 | • sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 283 | • depreciation 2275 |
| • rollingstock maintenance 2737 | • operational support and enabling (operational and | |
| • allocation towards track maintenance 1750 | | |
| 2020 financial year (\$000) | | |
| • traincrew and onboard services 4963 | • station operations 606 | corporate management etc) 2182 |
| • fuel 181 | • sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 279 | • depreciation 2211 |
| • rollingstock maintenance 2410 | • operational support and enabling (operational and | |
| • allocation towards track maintenance 1346 | | |
| 2021 financial year (\$000) | | |
| • traincrew and onboard services 4252 | • allocation towards track maintenance 1602 | • operational support and enabling (operational and corporate management etc) 1753 |
| • fuel 150 | • station operations 655 | • depreciation 1910 |
| • rollingstock maintenance 4163 | • sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 297 | |

2022 financial year (\$000)

- traincrew and onboard services 4443
- fuel 177
- rollingstock maintenance 4221
- allocation towards track maintenance 1342
- station operations 681
- sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 260
- operational support and enabling (operational and corporate management etc) 1572
- depreciation 984

2023 financial year (\$000)

- traincrew and onboard services 4535
- fuel 351
- rollingstock maintenance 4636
- allocation towards track maintenance 1766
- station operations 517
- sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 273
- operational support and enabling (operational and corporate management etc) 2028
- depreciation 1147

2024 financial year (as at 29 February 2024) (\$000)

- traincrew and onboard services 3222
- fuel 179
- rollingstock maintenance 3643
- allocation towards track maintenance 1260
- station operations 334
- sales and distribution (booking services and marketing etc) 272
- operational support and enabling (operational and corporate management etc) 1567
- depreciation 996