

## Question on Notice

No. 641

Asked on 22 May 2024

**MR S MINNIKIN** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON B MELLISH)—

### QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide a list of all unplanned outages of the Queensland Rail digital Track Access System (TAS) since its introduction (including the date and duration of any outages) together with details of any safety incidents that have resulted from unplanned outages?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

The Track Access System (TAS) is a software system that allows an electronic request for a track authority, which is the process that provides safe access to the rail corridor. Prior to the implementation of this software, Queensland Rail used a paper-based system.

Even with a limited number of outages, the TAS is a significantly safer process for employees. It provides protection officers with a real-time representation of network operations, which significantly reduces the likelihood of communication-based errors occurring.

Since its introduction to the Queensland Rail network in 2022, there have been nine unplanned outages of TAS:

- 24 July 2022 – four hours
- 2 December 2022 – 45 minutes
- 3 October 2023 – two hours
- 6 October 2023 – two hours
- 19 November 2023 – two hours
- 12 December 2023 – four hours
- 15 December 2023 – 20 minutes
- 16 December to 17 December 2023 – 15 hours.
- 25 January 2024 – 33 minutes.

There were no safety incidents on the Queensland Rail network as a result of the outages to TAS. If TAS is unavailable, Queensland Rail reverts to paper-based track authorities to ensure the safe continuation of its operations.