

Question on Notice

No. 720

Asked on 11 June 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 additional bus and train services that will be provided during the 50 cent fare trial period to cater for any additional demand?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

From 5 August 2024, for six months, all public transport fares in Queensland will be a flat rate of 50 cents per journey for everyone across all zones.

Public transport usage across all modes remains about 13 per cent below pre-COVID-19 levels. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will monitor loading and demand on all public transport services during the trial to help inform future decisions on the cost of public transport fares and service levels. TMR understands many of the services are well used by the community, particularly during peak times, and will work closely with delivery partners to assess any issues, should they arise.

In addition, TMR will have a reliable fleet of locally made and manufactured rail replacement buses available to deploy, where necessary.

On 8 July 2024, the Miles Government signed a separate funding agreement with Brisbane City Council for additional funding support for the Brisbane bus network. The Funding Agreement will see the State contribute an additional \$75 million towards Brisbane services for the next 12 months.

This agreement will support the introduction of 50 cent fares with demand responsive buses providing additional capacity where it is needed most. It will also allow for the rapid deployment of high-capacity Brisbane Metro vehicles from October 2024. Importantly, Brisbane Metro vehicles will be introduced on the busy Route 169 between Eight Mile Plains and the University of Queensland, St Lucia campus. Brisbane Metro vehicles can carry up to 150 passengers.

TMR encourages passengers to use the Service Capacity Tracker, which can be accessed at www.translink.com.au/plan-your-journey/capacity-tracker and provides detailed information about the space available on services and can be tailored to specific travel days and times.