

Question on Notice

No. 176

Asked on 21 February 2007

MR MOORHEAD asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR LUCAS)

QUESTION:

What effect has the introduction of integrated ticketing had on public transport in Logan and the northern Gold Coast.

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for his question. Integrated ticketing was introduced on 1 July 2004 as the first stage of an improved public transport system for South East Queensland (SEQ).

Prior to TransLink, there were 18 public transport operators selling over 100 different ticketing products, charging different fares and providing different concessions. This made travel on public transport both confusing and expensive.

Integrated ticketing allows people to travel on participating buses, Citytrain and Brisbane City Council ferries using just one TransLink ticket across the system. With just one TransLink ticket, passengers can transfer between all TransLink services at no extra cost and explore new travel options.

Patronage Increase

The community has realised these benefits and supported integrated ticketing. In the first year of operation, patronage for the whole of the TransLink network grew by 9.9%. This was followed by a further 10% increase in 2005/06.

The work TransLink has been doing has ensured patronage growth across all of SEQ.

The bus operator providing services in the area spanning from Logan to the northern Gold Coast (more specifically the area bound by Underwood, Windaroo, Crestmead and Eagleby) is Clarks Bus Service. Patronage increases for this area are as follows:

2004/05	32.0%
2005/06	30.3%
Jul 06 – Jan 07	20.1%

Patronage increases for the Southern Region (which includes the areas of Beenleigh, Loganholme, Loganlea, Browns Plains, Logan Central, Slacks Creek, Woodridge and Springwood) and the Gold Coast area are as follows:

	Southern Region	Gold Coast
2004/05	48.6%	15.4%
2005/06	29.5%	9.7%
Jul 06 – Jan 07	15%	7.7%

TransLink Network Plan

As the second stage of delivering an integrated public transport system, TransLink produced the *TransLink Network Plan* (TNP) to map out public transport service and infrastructure improvements over the next ten years and outline a four year program of improvements.

The four year program focuses on coordinating services, making services fast, frequent, reliable and safe, investing in infrastructure to provide quality stations and stops and to cater for growth.

In the TNP, the Queensland Government has approved funding increases for service improvements worth \$695m over the next decade.

Service Improvements

TransLink has currently spent over \$60m on service improvements to date (July 04 – Feb 07) across the TransLink network.

Initial upgrades of bus services implemented in Logan on 27 June 2005 represented the biggest single investment in improved public transport services (\$2.5m annually) in Logan, and resulted in approximately 1600 new services per week (a 60% increase). The result has been record levels of patronage with services carrying on average, an extra 32% more passengers than the same period a year earlier.

Additional Logan bus services were implemented in August 2006 to cater for high passenger demand in the region.

Gold Coast bus services received a major boost following the implementation of an extra \$6.2m a year to improve services, including a new 24 hour high frequency bus service along the Gold Coast Highway. Service changes implemented on 15 May 2006 injected an additional one million kilometres into the current network.

The following additional weekend and public holiday services (funded by the Gold Coast City Council) were implemented on 26 January 2007:

- Logan City Bus Service route 562 – Loganholme bus station to Beenleigh
- Logan City Bus Service route 563 – Loganholme bus station to Bethania
- Logan City Bus Services route 565 – Windaroo to Loganholme bus station

Future Service Improvements

Future improvements planned for the Logan and northern Gold Coast area include:

- up to 12 new carriages for the Gold Coast line to satisfy demand, as part of 72 new carriages rolled out across the network;
- proposed improvements to the Gold Coast rail line, specifically:
 - Salisbury to Kuraby third track upgrade (under construction – to be completed July 2008)
 - Extension of the Gold Coast rail line from Robina to Varsity Lakes – July 2009.
 - Helensvale to Robina second track upgrade – August 2008.
 - Coomera to Helensvale second track (2010 – 2012)
 - Kuraby to Kingston third track (2010 – 2012)
 - Varsity Lakes (Reedy Creek) to Elanora Extension (2010 – 2012)
 - Salisbury to Park Road fourth track
 - Elanora to Coolangatta extension
- proposed bus service improvements:
 - Gold Coast City Council have agreed to fund weekend and public holiday services on the following Gold Coast inland routes for a period of not less than three years, commencing on 24 March 2007:
 - 3 (Oxenford to Southport)
 - 4 (Broadbeach to West Burleigh)
 - 5 (Coomababah to Broadbeach)
 - 10 (Sanctuary Cove to Southport)
 - 14 (Southport to Helensvale)
 - 15 (Southport to Arundel Crest)
 - 16 (Gaven Heights to Southport)
 - 18 (Southport to Pacific Fair)
 - 20 (Southport to Pacific Fair)
 - 20A (Southport to Pacific Fair)
 - 21 (Clearwater to Surfers Paradise)
 - 738 (Pacific Fair to Harbour Town)
 - 748 (Nerang Station to Bond Uni)
 - 567 (Beenleigh to Ormeau)
 - growth in the Southern Region has been substantial with cross-town and CBD services currently experiencing overcrowding issues. To address these issues TransLink is introducing the following additional morning and afternoon peak services on Logan City Bus Service routes, commencing on 23 April 2007:
 - 550 (Browns Plains to Springwood)
 - 551 (Crestmead to Brisbane City)
 - 555 (Loganholme Bus Stn to Brisbane City)
 - 560 (Loganholme Bus Stn to Browns Plains)
 - 561 (Crestmead to Brisbane City)
 - 566 (Windaroo to Brisbane City)
 - 569 (Loganholme Bus Stn to City)
 - 571 (Cornubia to Brisbane City)
 - 573 (Loganholme Bus Stn to City)
 - Existing park n' ride facilities at the Logan Hyperdome will be expanded

The benefits TransLink has delivered to the people of SEQ will continue into the future.