

Question on Notice

No. 181

Asked on Wednesday 21 February 2007

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

QUESTION:

With reference to schools which are split campuses, and are divided by a local government road, where students are required to regularly cross the road to attend school activities—

Will he support the expansion of the school student pedestrian supervisor program (lolly pop ladies) outside of the current limited time slot?

ANSWER:

The School Crossing Supervisor Scheme provides only for supervision at primary schools or special schools. A supervised crossing normally operates for between half an hour to one hour each morning and thirty minutes in the afternoon on each day that students attend the school. Operating times are determined by Queensland Transport in consultation with the school principal.

Queensland Transport works with local Safe School Travel (SafeST) Committees on a case by case basis to examine options for improving the safety of children in the school environment. The *School Environment Guidelines*, available on the QT website, outline the operations of SafeST Committees and road design within the school environment.

QT, in association with SafeST committees, is able to examine a range of options for managing the assessed risk at a particular location. These options could include all-day school-zone speed limits, the use of volunteers to extend the hours of operation of school crossings, education strategies to raise the level of road safety awareness within the school community, as well as road-based engineering solutions.

The Government is committed to providing an additional 45 school crossings during this term. However, it would not be possible to provide these additional supervised crossings, continue to fund the existing extensive network of supervised crossings and also fund all-day school crossings. This may not be the most effective response to improving safety.

Longer term options for split campuses are currently being examined and the Department of Main Roads is leading an infrastructure review for my consideration.