

Question on Notice

No. 1705

Asked on Wednesday 12 November 2008

MR WELLINGTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (MR MICKEL) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the Sunshine Coast Hinterland Connect bus service that travels from Nambour to the Blackall Range—

When is the current bus contract due to end and how many people have travelled on the bus since the new bus service started?

ANSWER:

I am advised that the current contract with the bus operator, Glasshouse Country Coaches, is due to end on 1 July 2009. This is the end date for the trial of the Hinterland Connect service.

Queensland Transport will assess the trial in March 2009 to determine the future of the service. The assessment will be based on passenger numbers and available ongoing funding and council's commitment to the service.

I am further advised that patronage on the four daily return trips between Maleny and Nambour, based on information supplied by the bus operator, since the start of the service trial, December 2007 to October 2008 (11 months) reveals the following number of people have travelled on the service:

- 21 320 Weekdays;
- 2233 Saturdays; and
- 1903 Sundays.