

Question on Notice

No. 1229

Asked on Tuesday 15 September 2009

MR EMERSON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT (MS NOLAN) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the \$26.5m upgrade of Indooroopilly Railway Station and the dangerous gap of approximately 30cm between platforms and trains—

(1) Who provides the public liability cover for QR and its passenger services and what is the extent of the cover currently in place?

(2) Is this public liability cover assured given that serious duty of care deficiencies have been identified and are known to exist at the station (and risk is generally underwritten on the understanding that liability cover is established to provide cover against unforeseen risk/incidents, not foreseen risk/incidents)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

The Member for Indooroopilly should remember that this \$26.5 million station upgrade delivered three lifts, making the station accessible for the mobility impaired for the first time.

The upgrade also delivered a new concourse level and ramp from Coonan Street, improved lighting, CCTV technology and customer signage and new waiting shelters and seats.

Indooroopilly Station is on a curve and is low to accommodate freight and coal trains. Raising the platforms would cause these trains to strike the edge of the platforms. The Member for Indooroopilly is aware of this.

Many stations across the network are designed in the same way.

QR staff are responsible for assisting all passengers to board and alight from trains safely and train guards also assist passengers to board trains when required.

Earlier this year, QR also launched a safety campaign to remind passengers of the gap and the need to take care.

In addition, QR provides specific assistance for people who have difficulty boarding or disembarking its trains. In particular, QR provides an assisted boarding area at its stations. These are indicated by the blue and white wheelchair symbol on each platform, and are generally located in the centre of platforms, close to the emergency help phone.

On Track Insurance Pty Ltd covers QR Limited and its group of companies for public liability insurance. The cover provided by this policy has a financial limit of \$350,000,000 for any one occurrence.

The extent of the cover provided under this policy is not restricted to foreseen or unforeseen risks. It covers both types of risk.