

Question on Notice

No. 1448

Asked on Wednesday 7 October 2009

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

QUESTION:

Why are special interest vehicle registration fees disproportionately higher in Queensland in comparison to other states and why have these fees been recently increased by 20 per cent?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Glass House for the question.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads offers a Special Interest Vehicle concession scheme for registered operators to provide a reduction in registration fees for historic vehicles that are limited to approved uses on the road.

The Special Interest Vehicle concession scheme was developed in consultation with Queensland Veteran and Vintage Vehicle Associations to provide car club members with a registration alternative for their classic historic vehicles.

The concession enables car enthusiasts to pursue their hobby of restoration and display of historic vehicles while receiving the benefit of reduced registration fees.

While other states have similar schemes, it is noted that there are variations in the restrictions imposed on the use of the vehicles. Restrictions include the number of trips per year, maximum usage in kilometres, and the completion of log books. Some states require an annual inspection to be undertaken prior to renewal of the registration. There are no annual vehicle inspections required when renewing vehicle registration in Queensland.

Queensland has no restrictions on the number of journeys a vehicle can make in a year provided the journeys are in accordance with the guidelines of the Special Interest Vehicle concession scheme. A log book is not required to be completed in Queensland.

While similar vehicle concession schemes in other jurisdictions may initially appear to be more attractive, the department considers that the current provisions under the Special Interest Vehicle scheme provides a suitable registration concession for operators for their classic historic vehicles.

The increase in motor vehicle registration fees, which took effect from 1 July 2009, was announced by the Treasurer on 9 December 2008 as part of the Major Economic Statement 2008-2009.

Queensland motorists will pay a total of approximately \$1.2 billion in motor vehicle registration fees in 2009-10. However, the state will invest \$2.145 billion in planning and building Queensland's road network in 2009-10.

The increase in motor vehicle registration fees announced in the Major Economic Statement in December 2008 will raise approximately \$183 million in 2009-10. Without the increase, we may have to cut back on the roads program, which would cut back on jobs.

In order to keep a program of this size on track, we did increase registration charges from 1 July 2009.

If we want to keep our record building program going and protect jobs, we have to take the tough decisions.