

Question on Notice

No. 1487

Asked on Thursday 8 October 2009

MR PITT ASKED THE MINISTER FOR MAIN ROADS (MR WALLACE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the road network—

- (1) What is the length of the network outside South East Queensland?
- (2) How much does the Queensland Government invest in this road network as compared to South East Queensland?
- (3) What is the estimated comparative cost of maintenance for the south east corner versus the cost of maintenance on regional Queensland?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mulgrave for the question.

(1) The total length of the state-controlled road network is 63,843 lane kilometres, of which 55,376 lane kilometres is outside of South East Queensland. The South East Queensland road network is represented by the South Coast, Metropolitan and North Coast Regions of the Department of Transport and Main Roads. Across these three Regions, there are 8,467 lane kilometres of state-controlled roads.

The total annual traffic on the South East Queensland Road Network, when reported as vehicle kilometres travelled (vkt), was 16.1 billion vkt. The total traffic outside the South East Queensland road network was 11.5 billion vkt. That is, South East Queensland roads carry some 58% of the total traffic on the state-controlled road network.

(2) Over the next 5 years the Queensland and Australian Governments are providing a record program of works, with \$18 billion to be spent on Queensland state-controlled roads and supporting services as outlined in the recently released *Roads Implementation Program (RIP) 2009-10 to 2013-14*.

This level of investment is an increase of \$1.8 billion over the previously published RIP.

Over the next five years, Queensland Government-funded roads projects totalling \$9.4 billion will be progressed in South East Queensland. This includes the road infrastructure investments outlined in the *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program*.

Last financial year the Queensland Government invested a total of \$318.9m on road maintenance outside South East Queensland. This cost includes total routine maintenance, programmed maintenance (resurfacing works) and rehabilitation (pavement strengthening works). The total invested in road maintenance in South East Queensland was \$187.2m during the same period.

(3) I can advise the estimated comparative cost of total road maintenance when compared to road length, was approximately \$22,086 per lane kilometre in South East Queensland, while \$5,759 per lane kilometre was invested in the road network outside of South East Queensland. When the level of traffic is considered, 1.2 cents was invested in road maintenance for each vehicle kilometre travelled in South East Queensland, compared to 2.8 cents for each vehicle kilometre travelled on the state-controlled road network outside South East Queensland.

By way of summary, a table of these figures is presented below.

	Road Network Length (lane km)	Maintenance Expenditure 2008-09 (\$ million)	Total Traffic 2008 (Veh-km) x10¹⁰	Expenditure (\$/lane-km)	Expenditure (\$/veh-km)
South East Queensland	8,476	187.2	1.61	22,086	0.012
Regional Queensland	55,376	318.9	1.15	5,759	0.028