

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 1946**

**Asked on Thursday 26 November 2009**

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise on the significance of the School Crossing Scheme in assisting children getting to and from school safely each day with no casualties at the 1,170 crossings at 640 schools throughout Queensland?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Capalaba for the question.

The School Crossing Supervisor Scheme commenced operating in 1984. There has been no fatality on a supervised crossing since the inception of the scheme 25 years ago.

The safety of students travelling to and from school is one of the most important, and often emotive, issues faced by the government and the community at large. Injuries to students are not acceptable, and there is an ongoing demand to make school travel safer.

It's a fact that young children do not have a well developed sense of danger due to underdeveloped peripheral vision and spatial sense. So the Government has a responsibility to ensure a high level of road safety near schools.

As part of its commitment to safe school travel, the Department of Transport and Main Roads developed the Safe School Travel package. Safe School Travel is an integrated collection of programs, schemes and initiatives developed after wide consultation and in partnership with the State Government's School Transport Safety Consultative Committee. This includes the School Crossing Supervisor Scheme.

The government has recognised the importance of this program and has provided 100 additional school crossing supervisors since March 2001.

In September 2006 the government pledged a commitment of \$1.11 million over the period 2007 – 2010 for the engagement of an additional 45 School Crossing Supervisors. Thirty of which are already employed, with 15 more to be employed in this financial year.