

Question on Notice

No. 366

Asked on Tuesday 9 March 2010

DR DOUGLAS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT (MS NOLAN) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the NightLink Bus operating on Route 745 from Surfers Paradise to Nerang from 2.30am to 5.30am—

(1) What financial and non-financial contribution has the government made to the provision of this service?

(2) What financial gain will the government make from the provision of this service?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Gaven for the question.

On Friday 18 December 2009 the TransLink Transit Authority and Gold Coast City Council (GCCC) introduced two NightLink services on Gold Coast routes 750 and 21 (N750 and N21).

These services offer customers an affordable and safe way to get home after a night out.

The NightLink services operate hourly from 2.30am until 5.30am on Saturday, Sunday and all public holiday mornings from Surfers Paradise to Robina and Nerang stopping at key activity centres, such as the Casino. Passengers also have the option of being dropped off anywhere along the route, provided it is safe to do so.

TransLink and Gold Coast City Council work in partnership on the delivery of public transport services. Council currently contributes approximately 10% of the total funding required to operate local bus services on the Gold Coast. The Queensland Government (through TransLink) values Council's involvement in planning the network and the funding it provides can lead to the early implementation of services, such as the NightLink bus service.

Through this funding agreement, Gold Coast City Council has provided an operational expenditure of \$136 000 per year to allow the early introduction of NightLink services. The estimated fare revenue since commencing these services totals \$1968.85. This is significantly outweighed by costs incurred by TransLink including marketing, timetable production, on-costs and ancillary expenses for vehicles used for NightLink.