

Question on Notice

No. 927

Asked on Tuesday, 14 June 2011

MR FOLEY asked the Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs (MS PALASZCZUK) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the Tilt Train—

Question:

- (1) What mileage of the distance between Cairns and Brisbane is available for the train to travel at speeds of 160km/h and what are the speed limits that apply to the balance?
- (2) What lengths of track have been/will be upgraded to allow speeds of at least 100km/h between Maryborough and Brisbane?

ANSWER:

Queensland Rail Limited has advised that approximately 148kms of track between Brisbane and Cairns has a maximum speed limit of 160km/h for Tilt Train services. The average speed of the Tilt Train between Brisbane and Cairns during travel time is 77km/h.

The speed of the Tilt Train ranges between 160km/h where the track structure and alignment can safely support higher train speeds and 40km/h in locations where there are tight radius curves, for example, city and range areas.

Approximately 12.5kms of track between Caboolture and Beerburrum has recently been upgraded, which allows for the Tilt Train to travel at speeds in excess of 100km/h.

The Beerburrum to Landsborough Track Duplication project is identified in the *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2010 – 2031*. The project will improve train travel times for commuters and by duplicating and straightening the rail line between Beerburrum and Landsborough.

Further upgrades of the north coast rail line are planned between Landsborough and Nambour to improve the efficiency, frequency, operating speeds and reliability of trains. This project is also identified under the *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program* and will include construction of a double track railway along a predominantly new route, with an expected timeframe for delivery of 2026-2031.