Question on Notice

No. 10

Asked on Wednesday, 13 February 2013

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MR}}$ Holswich asked the minister for transport and main roads (MR emerson)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Disability Discrimination Act disability access targets for South East Queensland railway stations—

Will the Minister advise if Strathpine, Bray Park and Lawnton railway stations meet the minimum standards and, if not, what work has been recommended to bring each up to the minimum standard?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Pine Rivers for the question.

Queensland Rail Limited has legal obligations under the federal *Disability Discrimination Act* 1992 (DDA) to eliminate discrimination as far as possible. The associated Transport Standards and Premises Standards set out specific measures for public transport operators in relation to stations and rollingstock.

The standards have the force of law.

Queensland Rail must comply with the standards for stations by 31 December 2022.

Queensland Rail classifies its City network stations into one of three categories, as detailed on its website, to reflect the standards:

- Independently accessible stations the station and all platforms can be accessed independently via accessible paths, ramps or lifts without using stairs
- Accessible with assistance the station has either a rail crossing or steep ramp/s, and people with mobility aids or difficulties walking may want to be accompanied by a travelling companion for assistance
- Not accessible neither of the above facilities are available.

Strathpine and Lawnton are classified as accessible with assistance and Bray Park is independently accessible.

Unfortunately the previous Labor Government left many stations across the network not accessible. Major investment will be required to improve accessibility. This task will be significantly harder given the considerable debt left by the previous Labor Government.