

Question on Notice

No. 317

Asked on Wednesday, 1 May 2013

DR FLEGG asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR EMERSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the 'Kan-go' bus services operating in the Wide Bay and Toowoomba areas—

Will the Minister outline the history of this scheme and advise the funding arrangements for these services and, in particular, advise (a) under what scheme(s) they are funded and (b) the amount of the subsidy per trip?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Moggill for the question.

In 2005 and 2007 respectively, the Department of Transport and Main Roads implemented flexible transport service initiative branded as Kan-go in Toowoomba (Rangeville) and Hervey Bay (Point Vernon).

The Kan-go service is a demand-responsive transport option designed to operate to a timetable on a partial fixed line of route connecting the respective CBD to a predefined suburban service area. Both Kan-go services operate hourly between 8am and 6pm.

Passengers can book a door side pick-up from any point within the pre-defined service area. No booking is required on any part the fixed route part of the service and passengers can therefore hail and ride. Standard *qconnect* fares apply on both Kan-go services.

The Kan-go services are operated by Bus Queensland in Toowoomba and Wide Bay Transit in Hervey Bay and are currently embedded and funded under an existing third generation service contract.

In addition to the bus service contracts, the Department of Transport and Main Roads also holds an agreement with Black and White Cabs who provide booking services for the Kan-go bus service and an agreement with Belengo, who provide the booking and GPS tracking software used on Kan-go buses which determines the most efficient route.

These arrangements allow patrons to call and request a pick-up at least one hour prior to the time they wish to travel and the bus will pick them up from their home. More information on Kan-go services and fares can be found on the Department of Transport and Main Roads website: www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Travel-and-transport/Qconnect.

In the past twelve months, the department has provided \$9.05 per passenger trip for the Toowoomba Kan-go service and \$9.26 per passenger trip for the Hervey Bay Kan-go service. All figures are GST inclusive.