

Question on Notice

No. 624

Asked on Tuesday, 10 September 2013

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide updated statistics for the rail patronage on the Ferny Grove line during off-peak periods utilising the 15 minute services?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Ferny Grove for the question.

The Newman Government is focussed on improving the affordability, frequency and reliability of City network services.

In October last year, the Newman Government introduced 15 minute off-peak services on the Ferny Grove line, as part of its commitment to offer more frequent services.

I am pleased to report that customers on the Ferny Grove line have welcomed the introduction of these services, with patronage on the line increasing by more than 3500 additional boardings per week. Almost 2500 of these additional boardings were recorded between 9:00am and 3:30pm on weekdays, while the 15 minute services are operating.

The introduction of a more regular timetable on the Ferny Grove line is an important part of the government's plan to encourage more people to catch public transport. In addition, the Newman Government continues to restore confidence in South East Queensland's public transport system, through improving affordability and reliability.

Recently, Queensland Rail achieved its best quarterly on-time running result in more than a decade, with 96.40 per cent of services arriving on time during April to June this year. In addition, the government continues its focus on affordability, through the introduction of free travel after nine weekly journeys and halving the annual fair hikes planned under Labor.

Since being elected, the Newman Government has continued to demonstrate a strong focus on public transport, with improvements such as 15 minute services on the Ferny Grove line proving a real incentive for people to leave their cars at home and use public transport.