

Question on Notice

No. 786

Asked on Wednesday, 30 October 2013

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise of the increase in peak and off-peak rail services to the Gold Coast?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mermaid Beach for the question.

The Newman Government is focussed on delivering an efficient and reliable rail service and in just over a year has achieved outstanding results.

Last financial year Queensland Rail achieved its best on-time running performance in more than a decade and introduced additional services, including an additional morning and afternoon peak service on the Gold Coast line.

Most recently, the Newman Government has announced new timetables will be implemented on the Gold Coast, Airport, Beenleigh, Cleveland, Doomben, Ferny Grove and Shorncliffe lines. The changes will take effect on 20 January 2014 and also include an additional AM and PM peak service on the Sunshine Coast line.

The new timetable will be simpler and easier for customers to understand, provide better reliability and more frequent services where they are needed most. On the Gold Coast line in particular, it will deliver 93 additional services each week and improve frequency with services departing every 7–15 minutes in the morning and afternoon peak.

Passengers will enjoy an improved level of comfort with more available seating. They will also benefit through a new, consistent, simplified express stopping pattern from the Gold Coast to CBD and improved bus connections.

The new timetable is a big win for public transport users. Its implementation has been timed to coincide with the new South East Queensland bus timetable which will deliver an integrated approach between modes and improve connections for passengers.

This timetable design is for the future and will also allow additional services to be added once trains start being delivered as part of the New Generation Rollingstock project.