Question on Notice

No. 599

Asked on Thursday, 7 August 2014

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide comparative numbers for the TransLink buses from Broadbeach via the Gold Coast Highway through Southport to the Gold Coast University Hospital compared to the early usage numbers of G-Link trams?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mermaid Beach for the question.

The Gold Coast Light Rail has now been open for just over a month from 21 July 2014. Bus network changes were also made at the same time following more significant changes earlier this year on 20 January 2014 as part of the South East Queensland Bus Network Review.

Patronage numbers for both light rail and buses should be considered preliminary and will continue to be monitored and analysed.

Weekday boardings on bus routes that previously travelled between Broadbeach and Griffith University (routes 700, 702, 703, 706, 707 and 709), averaged 14,882 for the period Monday, 15 July 2013 to Friday, 3 August 2013. Since the commencement of light rail, these routes no longer service the light rail corridor. Passengers on these services may have boarded outside of the light rail corridor.

For the equivalent period of Monday, 21 July 2014 to Friday, 8 August 2014, weekday boardings on the light rail averaged 17,180.

In addition, a new bus route 705 was introduced to this corridor in January 2014, to provide a connection to Sea World. The 705 has averaged 2673 boardings on weekdays for the same period of Monday, 15 July 2014 to Friday, 3 August 2014. Passengers on these services may also have boarded outside of the light rail corridor.