

Question on Notice

No. 700

Asked on Friday, 17 July 2015

MS GRACE asked the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply (HON M BAILEY) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide an update on the Pensioners and Seniors Card Holders' energy, waste and transport concessions to be provided by the Palaszczuk Government following the Federal Government termination of the National Partnership funding for Queensland concessions?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Brisbane Central for the question.

The Queensland Government is committed to providing concessions for our Pensioners and Seniors Card holders across a wide variety of services.

In its 2014-15 Budget, the Australian Government announced its decision to end the *National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Seniors Card Holders* (the NPA) from 1 July 2014. As a result, Queensland lost access to funding worth \$223.2 million for the period 2014-15 to 2017-18. This amounted to 15 per cent of the total cost of concessions supported through the NPA for Pensioner Concession Card and Seniors Card holders in Queensland.

For 2015-16, the estimated concessions to be provided by the Queensland Government following the termination of the NPA are as follows:

Concessions by agency (inclusive of Pensioner and Seniors Card holder portion)	
Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services	2015-16 estimate (\$ million)
Electricity Rebate Scheme	154.3
Electricity Life Support Concession Scheme	2.3
Medical Cooling and Heating Electricity Concession Scheme	1.2
Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme	53.6
South East Queensland (SEQ) Pensioner Water Subsidy Scheme	19.3
Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme	10.0
Reticulated Natural Gas Rebate Scheme	2.2
Department of Transport and Main Roads	2015-16 estimate (\$ million)
TransLink Transport Concessions (South East Queensland)	104.1
Other transport concessions (Regional Queensland) and taxi subsidies	27.3
Designated Public Transport Concessions for Seniors Card Holders	3.8
The Queensland Rail Concession Scheme	36.0
Vehicle and boat registration concessions	146.1

Source: *Budget Strategy and Outlook 2015-16*, retrieved from Table B2,
<http://www.budget.qld.gov.au/budget-papers/documents/bp2-appendix-b-2015-16.pdf>

I note that the Transport and Queensland Rail concessions fall within the portfolio of the Honourable Jackie Trad MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade.