

## Question on Notice

No. 2166

Asked on Thursday, 10 November 2016

**MR PYNE** asked the Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

### **QUESTION:**

Will the Minister consider mandating security screens in Queensland buses and taxis following the tragic death of Manmeet Ashir and past assaults on Queensland drivers?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Cairns for the question.

I have extended my sympathies to Manmeet Sharma's family (also known as Manmeet Alisher), his co-workers and those affected by this terrible incident.

On 29 September I announced an independent review of bus driver safety after concerns were raised by key stakeholders at the Bus Safety Forum earlier this year. I have requested that this review be fast tracked with the final report and recommendations to be provided to government as soon as possible.

The review will consider previous studies and initiatives by government, industry, unions and the tertiary sector to gain insight and knowledge about issues impacting driver safety. The review will also assess initiatives currently underway across government both here and in other jurisdictions to address driver and passenger safety and how these can complement current safety frameworks and systems. Environmental scanning and research will also be conducted on driver safety systems and elements and examine their benefits and practical applicability which will also include further investigations into the fitment of driver screens. Findings from the Bus Safety Review will be considered by the Government.

In relation to taxis the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has recently established a Personalised Transport Unit and these matters are being considered in light of the Government's reforms to the sector.

Safety is a key priority for the Queensland Government. TMR will continue to monitor safety issues that impact public passenger services.