

## Question on Notice

No. 813

Asked on Thursday, 14 June 2018

**MR S KNUTH** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)

### QUESTION:

With reference to the number of 'grey nomads' travelling Australia and investing in regional communities—

Will the Minister (a) advise why, in Queensland, pensioner discounts on yearly registrations only apply to motor vehicles and not towed caravans and (b) commit to reviewing this situation?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Hill for the question.

(a) The Palaszczuk Government is committed to providing concessions to our pension concession and senior card holders whenever possible. In the 2018–19 budget, the Government committed \$5.5 billion to fund concessions in Queensland. This represents a significant government and taxpayer commitment to improving the accessibility and affordability of a diverse range of services and has had a \$200 million increase over 2017–18.

The majority of pensioners and senior card holders have access to concessions, including a reduction in vehicle registration fees and public transport travel. The current pensioner and senior card concession for registration fees is limited to one motor vehicle and one vessel, such as a recreational boat, per couple. Providing one registration concession per couple ensures that each family unit has the ability to have access to a vehicle for essential travel at a lower cost.

The focus of vehicle-related concessions is to assist those who can least afford registration costs and also to direct those concessions towards the primary vehicles that are used in day-to-day transportation.

(b) In 2013, the Department of Transport and Main Roads reviewed the registration costs for light trailers, which includes caravans. However, no change was made because trailers currently attract a relatively small registration fee when compared to motor vehicles, even when factoring in the concessions provided to motor vehicles.

The cost to register a trailer depends on the aggregate trailer mass (ATM), which is the tare weight plus the maximum load the trailer can carry. For example, the cost of 12 months registration for a trailer with an ATM up to 1.02 tonnes is \$106.20 (\$109.90 from 1 July 2018), and for a trailer with an ATM of between 1.02 tonnes and 4.5 tonnes is \$202.20 (\$209.30 from 1 July 2018). Trailers do not attract compulsory third party (CTP) insurance charges in Queensland and are covered by the CTP policy of the towing vehicle.

By comparison, the total cost to register a four-cylinder passenger vehicle for 12 months, including CTP, is \$719.65 (\$727.60 from 1 July 2018). The holder of a pension concession card issued after 1 July 1994 receives a 50 per cent discount on the registration fee component of registration, reducing the total amount payable to \$564.40 (\$566.90 from 1 July 2018).