

Question on Notice

No. 817

Asked on Thursday, 14 June 2018

MR D PURDIE ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)

QUESTION:

Will the Minister (a) advise the total cost to supply cab vouchers to Queensland Rail (QR) employees in the past financial year (reported separately by region) and (b) confirm whether QR staff are using taxis to travel between Brisbane and other locations including Gympie, Caboolture and the Sunshine Coast?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Ninderry for the question.

Queensland Rail is focused on reducing the cost of taxis for staff, and has reduced costs during the last financial year. Queensland Rail continues to investigate ways to further reduce its reliance on taxis while ensuring services are reliable for customers.

For the 2017–18 financial year, Queensland Rail turned over approximately \$2.0 billion and taxi costs comprised 0.086% of consumable expenses.

The total cost of providing taxis to Queensland Rail employees during the past financial year is detailed in the table below.

Staff taxi expenses by region	Cab vouchers	Accounts and other	Total
South East Queensland	\$141,258	\$452,216	\$593,474
Darling Downs South West	\$ 1,665	\$ 111	\$ 1,776
Wide Bay-Burnett	\$ 7,427	\$ 31,172	\$ 38,599
Central Queensland	\$ 19,191	\$ 1,375	\$ 20,566
Mackay, Isaac & Whitsunday	\$ 12,361	\$ 0	\$ 12,361
Northern Queensland	\$ 21,825	\$ 908	\$ 22,733
Far North Queensland	\$ 26,281	\$ 1,164	\$ 27,445
Interstate	\$ 11,616	\$ 1,070	\$ 12,686
Total 2017–18 financial year	\$241,624	\$488,016	\$729,640

Total 2016–17 financial year	\$251,409	\$559,928	\$811,337
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As it is for many companies, taxi travel is a necessary operating cost for Queensland Rail to support staff travelling away from home and across the state and for the efficient and timely operation of services, including between Caboolture, Sunshine Coast and Gympie.

Queensland Rail will continue its efforts to further reduce taxi costs.