

Question on Notice

No. 970

Asked on Wednesday 22 August 2018

MR S MINNIKIN ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the number of new CityTrain drivers and guards that have been externally recruited since May 2018 (reported separately by gender)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

Queensland Rail is working hard to increase the number of women joining its growing traincrew workforce. Over the past year, both the number and proportion of women working as qualified drivers and guards has increased.

Almost one fifth (19.3 per cent) of the total qualified guards working on the Citytrain network are women, an increase from 16.7 per cent at the end of March 2017, and women represent 5.8 per cent of total qualified drivers, which is an increase from 4.4 per cent at the end of March 2017.

In line with recommendations from the *Queensland Rail Train Crewing Practices Commission of Inquiry*, Queensland Rail commenced external recruitment activities in August 2017 to hire and train additional traincrew. This is the biggest recruitment drive Queensland Rail has ever undertaken.

Since May 2018, 36 external candidates have now been provisionally offered roles as trainee drivers from the August 2017 campaign. While 36 external candidates had been provisionally offered roles, one candidate has subsequently withdrawn.

Of the 35 provisional offers to external applicants that were accepted, four of these are female and 31 male. This equates to an 11.4 per cent representation of female candidates at offer.

In addition, there are 20 ex-Queensland Rail drivers currently in training schools, of which 18 were recruited externally. The first cohort of ex-Queensland Rail drivers has completed foundation training and is now on the network learning routes.

The external recruitment campaign for guards is also progressing well with 42 external candidates now allocated to guard training schools. Of the 42 offers to external candidates, seven of these are female and 35 male. This equates to a 16.7 per cent representation of female candidates at offer.

Since 4 October 2016, Queensland Rail has offered roles to 253 trainee drivers and 303 trainee guards, with 98 drivers and 217 guards now fully qualified and working on the South East Queensland network (as at 9 September 2018).

As at 9 September 2018, Queensland Rail has a net increase of 47 fully qualified drivers which includes drivers, tutors and train operation inspectors, who are focused on boosting training capacity.

As at 9 September 2018, there are 98 drivers and 53 guards in training.