

Question on Notice

No. 639

Asked on Tuesday 30 April 2019

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of how much the Taxi Subsidy Scheme is estimated to cost (or did cost) for 2015–16 to 2019–20 (reported separately by financial year)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Ninderry for the question.

The projected costs associated with Queensland's Taxi Subsidy Scheme (TSS) for 2019–20 are unable to be provided as the State Budget is yet to be announced.

The TSS costs for the previous financial years were:

- a total of \$14,572,720.95 for 2015–16
- a total of \$15,332,986.10 for 2016–17
- a total of \$14,140,696.76 for 2017–18
- an estimated total of \$15,301,000 for 2018–19.

I am also pleased to advise that the Palaszczuk Government has committed to extending the TSS after 30 June 2019 for 12 months, and has allocated \$6 million to ensure that access to TSS continues over the coming year for National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants.

In addition to the co-contribution of up to \$25 per trip provided under TSS, the Palaszczuk Government is also allocating funding to ensure the continuation of the \$20 lift incentive payment for drivers of wheelchair accessible taxis to give priority to TSS members who are required to travel in wheelchairs. We want to ensure that people with disability continue to receive this support, so they can undertake everyday activities and stay connected with family and friends, without having to compromise their health and wellbeing by missing important medical appointments.

The Palaszczuk Government will continue to work with the federal government over the coming year to ensure the NDIS delivers proper, affordable transport options for Queenslanders in the longer term.

I look forward to the Member joining with the Palaszczuk Government to pressure the Morrison Government to prioritise setting the transition right over the next financial year.