

## Question on Notice

No. 896

Asked on Tuesday 11 June 2019

**MR S O'CONNOR** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

### QUESTION:

With reference to answer to Question on Notice No. 1040 and the Ministers statement, '...TMR will continue to monitor network demand to ensure it meets the needs of local communities' in relation to the Light Rail Stage 2 timetable after 11:00pm—

Will the Minister advise (a) what monitoring has taken place, (b) what number of commuters are alighting at Gold Coast University Hospital after 11:00pm on Fridays and Saturdays and (c) whether the department has reviewed its decision to limit the Stage 2 service times?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Bonney for the question.

I am pleased to advise that the Gold Coast community are voting with their feet, by using the Gold Coast Light Rail (GCLR) in increasing numbers. The current timetable is proving to be very successful with patronage on the light rail reaching an estimated 10.88 million trips in the 2018–19 financial year. This is an estimated increase of 1.39 million trips compared to the 2017–18 financial year.

- a) The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) actively monitors patronage throughout the network using ticketing data. This includes reviewing station alightings on GCLR late night services. In particular, station alightings after 11pm were reviewed between 1 July 2018 to 31 May 2019 to understand the level of demand for customers using the Gold Coast University Hospital (GCUH), Parkwood East, Parkwood and Helensvale stations. It was found that commuters had a very low level of use on the light rail between 11pm to 1am on both Friday and Saturday nights.
- b) The review indicated an average of four customers per tram alight on Friday night and six customers per tram alight on Saturday night after 11pm at the GCUH station.
- c) TMR has reviewed the span of hours of the light rail, and current patronage indicates there is insufficient demand to warrant the additional investment required for increased late night services beyond GCUH. TMR will continue to monitor network demand to ensure it meets the needs of local communities.