

Question on Notice

No. 1042

Asked on 13 October 2022

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland learner licence having only a three-year period of validity but costs more than the driver licence for the same period—

Will the Minister consider a review of the cost and length of validity of the Queensland learner's licence to make it more affordable for students to attain a learner's permit?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Burnett for the question.

Under Queensland's graduated licensing system, learner drivers must hold their learner licence for at least 12 months. They must also complete 100 hours of on-road supervised driving and pass an online hazard perception test. Once these requirements are met, a learner can take, and must pass, a practical driving test to obtain their provisional licence.

While 12 months is the minimum time a learner must hold their licence for, they are not required to progress to a provisional licence immediately. In fact, for many people, the supervised driving element can take much longer. Therefore, the three-year learner licence term provides flexibility for all young drivers to learn at their own pace and progress when they are ready, without having to renew their learner licence.

Queensland licence fees are determined on a cost recovery basis. Licensing fees reflect the cost of issuing a licence and maintaining the licensing system. For learner licences, it also includes the costs of providing and assessing learner logbooks.

Continual investment in the licensing system is critical to providing a system that is robust and secure and that benefits all Queensland licence holders. Investment also ensures that Queensland licences incorporate the best safety and security features possible, helping to protect holders against security risks and fraud and providing Queenslanders with confidence in the licensing system. The importance of this has been highlighted recently by major cyber-attacks.

The Queensland Government aims to strike a balance between the costs associated with administering and maintaining its products and services, and what is deemed as a reasonable cost for the community. However, I note the concerns raised. All requests for change in services are considered and prioritised against competing requests across Queensland and the levels of funding currently available.