

Question on Notice

No. 713

Asked on 24 June 2022

MR A POWELL ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to drug and alcohol testing on RoadTek sites—

Will the Minister advise each month for the last three financial years (a) the number of individuals who have undergone a drug and alcohol test on any RoadTek sites (including depots, offices and construction and worksites) and (b) the number of positive detections and the number of individuals who have refused to undertake a test?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Glass House for the question.

RoadTek operates as a commercial business within the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), with responsibility for the delivery of numerous projects that make up the State's extensive road and bridge network. RoadTek provides transport infrastructure solutions through integrated business streams, including civil construction and maintenance, structures, electrical, line marking and digital infrastructure services to enable TMR to deliver on government priorities and community outcomes. RoadTek also has a key role to play in supporting communities in times of need as part of emergency responses and responding to disruptive events, such as the recent flooding events across Queensland.

RoadTek has a long-standing commitment to providing a safe place of work for all workers. It is widely recognised that workers can present a considerable safety risk to themselves and their workmates if they attend work potentially affected by drugs, or alcohol. RoadTek recognises the high-risk nature associated with working on roads, working near powered mobile plants and working near overhead powerlines that will be part of officers' daily work during the project.

Drug and alcohol testing has been carried out under project site specific agreements while a departmental policy is being developed. Due to the governance arrangements required to undertake the testing regime, testing has been focused on significant high risk infrastructure projects. The frequency of these trigger projects vary according to RoadTek's program of work and risk profile.

Over the last three financial years on RoadTek sites (including depots, offices, and construction worksites), 824 individuals underwent drug testing and 877 individuals underwent alcohol testing. The following table breaks information down by months.

Months	Number of drug tests	Number of alcohol tests	Number of refusals	Number of positive breath tests	Number of positive drug tests*
Jul 2020	11	11	-	0	0
Aug 2020	35	35	-	0	0
Sept 2020	37	39	-	2	2
Oct 2020	27	27	-	0	2
Nov 2020	71	73	-	0	2
Dec 2020	45	44	-	0	0
Jan 2021	31	76	-	1	0
Feb 2021	78	79	-	0	0
Mar 2021	70	70	-	0	0
April 2021	80	80	-	0	0

Months	Number of drug tests	Number of alcohol tests	Number of refusals	Number of positive breath tests	Number of positive drug tests*
May 2021	101	102	-	6	0
June 2021	67	67	-	3	0
Jul 2021	27	27	-	0	0
Aug 2021	42	43	-	3	0
Sept 2021	53	54	-	4	0
Oct 2021	32	33	-	0	2
Nov 2021	17	17	-	0	1

**Nine samples were sent for further testing to an approved testing laboratory. One sample returned a negative reading, and five of the nine samples were consistent with pre-supplied medical information, meaning those officers could continue to perform their normal duties.*