

Question on Notice

No. 1494

Asked on 16 November 2023

MR J KRAUSE ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide Queensland Rail's 2022–23 total financial year spend on taxis as well as a breakdown by user (i.e. Queensland Rail staff, passenger, other)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Scenic Rim for the question.

Taxi travel is a necessary operating cost for Queensland Rail, with taxis used to support staff travelling and working away from home when other transportation is not available for use.

Taxis are also required to transport traincrew between their depot and various locations across the network to get to their start position to operate timetabled services.

While the primary mode of travel in these situations is the rail network, taxis are arranged when a train is not a practical option. For example, if there is an unplanned disruption, or incident on the network, or during maintenance closures.

Using taxis to move employees in these circumstances can significantly reduce delays and service cancellations on the network and ensures a more reliable service for customers.

The cost of providing taxis to Queensland Rail employees during the 2022–23 financial year (FY) was \$638,400. Queensland Rail has 7726 employees (as at 30 June 2023) across multiple locations in Queensland. This is a 2.1 per cent decrease in expenditure when compared to 2021–22 FY.

On occasion, as part of Queensland Rail's disruption management and alternate transport arrangements, taxis may also be utilised for transporting customers. The cost of providing taxis to customers during 2022–23 FY was \$17,924. This is a 4.8 per cent decrease when compared to 2021–22 FY.