Question on Notice

No. 209

Asked on 7 March 2024

MR D LAST ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON B MELLISH)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise when the next stage of the Mount Coolon (Bowen Developmental Road) will be sealed?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Burdekin for the question.

The Miles Government is delivering its eighth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2023–24 to 2026–27*, which outlines \$32.1 billion in investment over the next four years and is estimated to support an average of 25,200 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$769 million is committed across the Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) Mackay/Whitsunday District, estimated to support an average of 700 direct jobs over the life of the program.

I am advised that planning for the future paving and sealing of the remaining unsealed sections of Bowen Developmental Road is expected to commence mid-2024. This planning project will develop a business case to assess and recommend delivery options for progressive paving, sealing and drainage improvements on priority sections between Collinsville and Belyando Crossing. TMR's maintenance contractor will continue to undertake fortnightly inspections and ongoing maintenance, including formation grading and resheeting, on the unsealed sections.