

Question on Notice

No. 42

Asked on 14 February 2024

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) when the Palmerston Highway between Crawford's Lookout and Junction Road will fully re-open and (b) what assistance has been provided to transport operators affected by the closure?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Coomera for the question.

- (a) Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) crews have been working to re-open roads as soon as it is safe to do so. The Palmerston Highway re-opened to all traffic—including B-doubles—on 10 February 2024, ahead of schedule.

TMR understands the importance of maintaining access on this important route and is continuing to investigate long-term solutions for repairs to the Palmerston Highway. The recovery works are jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

- (b) During the road closure, TMR introduced a temporary permit arrangement for heavy vehicles between Mount Garnet and the Walkamin vehicle inspection site, providing an alternative route for heavy vehicles that would usually travel via the Palmerston Highway.