

Question on Notice

No. 597

Asked on 22 May 2025

MS S BOLTON ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS
(HON B MICKELBERG)

QUESTION:

With reference to community concerns regarding the replacement of a school bus fitted with seat belts with one without on route 5838 in Noosa, and given the recent accident involving a school bus and truck—

Will the Minister ensure TransLink and CDC allocate a bus with seat belts on the route and revise policy, so this does not occur again?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The Crisafulli Government is committed to ensuring the safety of all passengers travelling on the public transport network. All Queensland buses must comply with relevant Vehicle Standards and Australian Design Rules, consistent with other states and territories.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads implements a risk-based approach to seatbelt requirements that is determined by the service type and operating environment, such as mandating passenger seatbelts for school buses travelling on long, steep and very steep roads (also known as Environment 3 or E3 roads).

As route 5838 does not travel on E3 roads, the buses currently operating on this route are compliant with the specific road conditions.

Additionally, the low-floor vehicle that replaced the high-floor vehicle on route 5838, after reaching the end of its service life, complies with the relevant Vehicle Standards, the Australian Design Rules, and the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

The Crisafulli Government will continue to monitor the matter to ensure evidence-based best practice underpins school transport safety in Queensland.