

Question on Notice

No. 134

Asked on 3 March 2026

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the department stating that seatbelts halve the risk of dying or being seriously injured in a crash—

Will the Minister provide the following information for buses in Queensland currently not fitted with seatbelts that transport school aged children (a) how many buses does this apply to, (b) the applicable routes taken, (c) which of those routes include travel on roads with speed limits >60km/hr including highways and (d) the expected timeframe for all Queensland buses transporting school aged children to have seatbelts installed?

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.

Through the School Bus Upgrade Scheme (SchoolBUS), funding is available for eligible school bus service providers to assist with the purchase of new buses, or buses less than five years old. The objective of SchoolBUS is to replace school buses used for government contracted school services before they reach their maximum operating age. All buses funded in the 2024–25 financial year have been fitted with seatbelts.

In relation to data on buses without seatbelts, it should be noted that school aged children travel on both privately and publicly owned buses which do not operate on dedicated school routes. Identifying every bus operating in Queensland which may or may not carry school aged children, whether the bus is fitted with seatbelts and the route/s it services, would place an undue burden on my department.