

BUDGET ESTIMATES
QUESTION ON NOTICE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Notice Given: 19 November 2008

Asked by: The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC

Question:

The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC to the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Illawarra:

1. When will all current Clearways projects be fully implemented?
2. Specifically which projects have been deferred? When will these projects be complete?
3. What is the status of the Cronulla Line Duplication?
4. When will the Cronulla Line Duplication be completed?
5. How much money has been spent to date on the Cronulla Line Duplication?
6. What is the total cost of the Cronulla Line Duplication?

Answer:

I am advised:

- (1) Construction of six Rail Clearways Program projects is complete, with four commissioned and fully operational. Seven other projects are currently underway and will be progressively delivered from early 2009.
- (2) As detailed in the mini budget announcement on 11 November 2008, the Government has carefully re-prioritised a number of current and future rail infrastructure projects to ensure that available resources are directed at projects that will deliver the best results for the community and the best value for money.

As announced, the Richmond Line Duplication Project will be delivered in two stages.

Stage 1 is scheduled for completion in 2011 and includes a new station at Schofields and duplication of the line between Quakers Hill Station and the new Schofields Station.

Stage 2 of the project includes the construction of a second track between the new Schofields Station and Vineyard, an upgrade of Riverstone Station and a new and upgraded Vineyard Station has been deferred and will be delivered in the future to align with growth in the North West.

The NSW Government has also determined not to proceed with the Carlingford Line Passing Loop and the Sydenham to Erskineville 6 Track projects.

- (3) Since the commencement of the Cronulla Line upgrading and duplication project in 2007, there has been a significant increase in the scope to include a new and fully integrated signalling system. Further scope changes also include an upgraded electrical system, an additional sub-station at Gymea and reconfiguration of the train stabling yard at Cronulla.

It has also been necessary for RailCorp to re-schedule the possessions on the Illawarra (Main) and the Cronulla (Branch) lines to suit the commissioning program for its Main Line re-signalling and train control upgrading project. The commissioning of the Branch Line is dependant on the commissioning of the re-signalling of the Main Line.

Due to the increases in the scope of the project, re-scheduled possessions, the need for commissioning of the Cronulla branch Line to follow commissioning of resignalling on the Illawarra main Line and critical skills shortages, the Cronulla Line Duplication Project is now scheduled to be delivered in 2010.

Commuters have already begun to benefit from the station upgrades, including new ticketing facilities at Kirrawee Station, with Easy Access facilities at Kirrawee and Woollooware stations to open by mid-2009. Other benefits to station users will include improved pedestrian access, additional security lighting, new seating, more undercover areas and improved visual amenity.

- (4) The Cronulla Line upgrading and duplication project is scheduled for completion in 2010.
- (5) As at November 2008, total TIDC expenditure on the Cronulla Line upgrading and duplication project is approximately \$160 million.
- (6) The Cronulla Line upgrading and duplication project is valued at \$344 million.

David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra

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Question:

Ms Gardiner to the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Illawarra:

In relation to the State Transit Authority:

7. Currently what is the average age of an STA bus?
8. How many daily STA bus services are there?
9. How many STA bus drivers are there?

Answer:

I am advised:

- (7) As at 30 November 2008, the average age of a State Transit bus is 12.75 years. It is expected that the average age of the fleet will fall below 12 years in 2009-10.
- (8) State Transit operates on average 15,000 services every weekday. Of these: 14,000 are operated by Sydney Buses; 1,000 services are operated by Newcastle Buses; and 150 services are operated by Western Sydney Buses.
- (9) As at 29 November 2008, State Transit employs 3,487 bus drivers (full time equivalent).

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Minister for the Illawarra**

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Question:

Ms Gardiner to the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Illawarra:

In relation to State Transit Authority bus services:

10. How many services were cancelled on a month-to-month basis in 2006/07?
11. How many miss trips were there on a month-to-month basis in 2006/07?
12. How many breakdowns were there on a month-to-month basis in 2006/07?

Answer:

I am advised:

- (10)-(11) State Transit uses the term 'missed trip' to denote a cancelled service, which is a service that has not commenced or a service that has not been completed for various reasons.

The table below lists the number of cancelled services per revenue trip for State Transit (Sydney Buses and Newcastle Buses).

Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06
0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%

Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07
0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%

- (12) The table below lists the mechanical breakdowns per 100,000km.

	Jul-06	Aug-06	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06
Sydney Buses	14.5	12.7	14.5	13.5	13.6	10.8
Newcastle Buses	11.6	12.2	10.2	14.3	9	4.5

	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07	Jun-07
Sydney Buses	12.3	12.4	12.1	12.4	12.3	13.4
Newcastle Buses	5.7	6.8	7.4	9.6	8.1	6.2

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The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC to the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Illawarra:

13. In relation to CityRail Services:

How many daily rail services are there?

Answer:

I am advised that 2562 CityRail services are timetabled for a typical weekday.

**David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra**

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Asked by: The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC

Question:

Ms Gardiner to the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Illawarra:

In relation to Sydney Ferries Corporation:

14. How many daily ferry services are there?

Answer:

I am advised:

Sydney Ferries has 545 scheduled services each weekday, 424 on Saturdays and Public Holidays; and 297 on Sundays.

**David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra**

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Question:

The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC to the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Illawarra:

In relation to CityRail:

15. How many train drivers are there?

16. How many train guards are there?

Answer:

I am advised:

(15) 1457

(16) 1174

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Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra**

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The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC to the Minister for Transport, Minister for the Illawarra:

Question:

In relation to CountryLink

17. How many CountryLink train drivers are there?

18. How many CountryLink train guards are there?

Answer:

I am advised:

17. 102

18. There are no train guards positions in CountryLink.

**David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra**

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In relation to Sydney Ferries Corporation:

19. How many ferry Captains are there?

20. How many deckhands are there?

Answer:

(19)-(20) I am advised by Sydney Ferries that as of 1 November 2008 there are:

94 masters (ferry captains); and
372 general purpose hands (deckhands).

**David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport
Minister for the Illawarra**