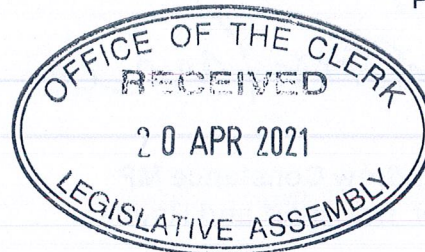




The Hon Andrew Constance MP
Minister for Transport and Roads

Our Ref: 01224334
PQ21/00234

Ms Helen Minnican
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
NSW Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Dear Ms Minnican

I write in response to the petition lodged on 16 March 2021 by Mr James Griffin MP, Member for Manly, regarding bus changes made in the North Balgowlah and Seaforth area on 20 December 2020.

Changes were made to the bus network in Sydney's Northern Beaches and Lower North Shore on 20 December 2020. Customers received more than 2,000 extra weekly services, as part of these changes. Some routes were replaced by new or extra services on other routes, to reduce duplication on the network and improve efficiency.

New route 172X provides an all-day service for North Balgowlah and Seaforth customers travelling towards the City or to Warringah Mall. While route 172X is an express route operating to and from the City, in the North Balgowlah area, it operates as a regular bus service, stopping at any bus stop on the route, as required. This is identical to other peak express bus routes operating elsewhere across the Northern Beaches, which operate through local streets, serving residential communities before travelling on the main corridor to and from the City.

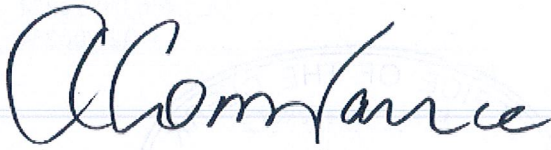
Buses operated on both Urunga and Taree Streets in North Balgowlah, similar to many Sydney suburban streets, before the recent service changes. The bus numbers on these streets have increased in peak hours, mostly between 7am and 9am, and between 5pm and 7pm, as part of these changes. Bus services outside of these times remain at the same frequency as that operated previously.

I have asked Transport for NSW to review the operation of bus services in these streets, based on community feedback. Transport for NSW, in collaboration with State Transit Authority, local community representatives and the Member for Manly, is developing a preferred option, to present to the North Balgowlah community and collect their feedback.

Information will be released imminently for more feedback, before making further changes.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Constance', is written over a faint circular official stamp.

08/04/2021

The Hon Andrew Constance MP
Minister for Transport and Roads