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Queensland Transport

Dr Hanna Jaireth
Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Planning and Environment
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
Canberra ACT 2601



Dear Dr Jaireth

Thank you for your recent letter to the Honourable Paul Lucas MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads, inviting a submission to your committee's inquiry into ACTION bus services and the ACT Government's Sustainable Transport Plan. The Minister has asked that I respond on his behalf.

In your letter, you outline your requirement to incorporate comparative analyses between ACTION buses and other bus operators. I agree that a comparison of passenger transport networks between States and territories is an effective way of measuring the performance of operator services. Passenger Transport Division and TransLink would be happy to provide data for this exercise, however, more detail will be needed from you to determine the level of information required.

Although it has been assumed that detailed information regarding specific bus operator patronage, vehicle kilometres travelled and fleet size information would be required for operator comparisons, it may be that the recently launched Passenger Transport Industry Overview will provide sufficient comparative data for your purposes. The document was launched at the April Queensland Bus Industry Council conference and was developed to inform industry and Government about industry patterns, emerging trends and challenges for the bus, taxi and limousine industries in Queensland. The overview and its supporting document – The Bus Industry Analysis, in Brief, are attached for your perusal.

In your letter you also discuss evaluating the ACT Government's Sustainable Transport Plan. After viewing the document it is apparent that QT currently faces similar issues in transport planning. Passenger Transport Division is currently implementing a minimum standard of public transport across Queensland through a range of Government initiatives and election commitments such as fare equalisation across Queensland, higher frequency services, upgrading bus stops and developing mesh networks enabling real time information systems. The Passenger Transport Strategy, outlining the development and delivery of economically, socially and environmentally sustainable transport options for all Queenslanders, has been attached to this submission.

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The draft TransLink Network Plan (TNP) outlines service and infrastructure plans and programs for the future public transport network throughout South East Queensland. This plan is available at www.translink.com.au (under *Planning and Projects*). In line with some of the goals you outline in the Sustainable Transport Plan, TransLink is developing a range of policy papers including a draft Park and Ride strategy and draft policy position papers regarding walking and cycling infrastructure. These documents are being developed to ensure the sustainable development of access options to the public transport network, in line with the objectives of the SEQ Regional Plan. The draft policy papers are not available to the public at this time. However, any queries can be directed to Mr Peter O'Loughlin on (07) 3117 1446.

I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this inquiry. Should you require more detailed information regarding bus operators in Queensland, or to discuss the Passenger Transport Industry Overview please call Ms Vanessa Taylor, Strategy and Planning Unit on (07) 3253 4507. Ms Taylor will be happy to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Blake', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Blake

Executive Director (Passenger Transport)