

SCHOOL BUS SERVICES — BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

781. Hon Nigel Hallett to the Minister for Transport

- (1) In regards to school bus services budget allocations for the 1997-08 financial year to present, for each financial year, what was the, —
 - (a) non managed; and
 - (b) recurrent budget (excluding seatbelt allocations)?
- (2) Out of the recurrent budget for each financial year, what percentage was allocated to, —
 - (a) school bus contractors for providing services; and
 - (b) conveyance allowances?
- (3) What performance measurements are in place for school bus services and how are these targets measured?
- (4) Were performance measurement targets achieved in, —
 - (a) 2004-05;
 - (b) 2005-06;
 - (c) 2006-07; and
 - (d) 2007-08?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

School Bus Services were managed by the Department for Education and the Department for Transport prior to 2003.

I can provide budget allocations for School Bus Services from 1 July 2003, however the Public Transport Authority is currently collating the data from the other Government departments for prior years. I will provide those answers once the data has been compiled.

- (1) (a) Non managed budgets for FY03/04 to FY08/09[1] (excluding other internal transfer costs such as accommodation, power etc);

(\$M)	FY03/04	FY04/05	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08	FY08/09
Budget	\$2.47	\$3.51	\$5.18	\$4.89	\$4.66	\$4.03

- (b) Recurrent budgets for FY03/04 to FY08/09[2] (excluding seat belts allocations);

(\$M)	FY03/04	FY04/05	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08	FY08/09
Budget	\$70.28	\$69.58	\$74.97	\$78.53	\$85.98	\$91.75

Recurrent budgets for FY03/04 to FY08/09 (including seat belts allocations);

(\$M)	FY03/04	FY04/05	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08	FY08/09
Budget	\$70.28	\$69.58	\$84.21	\$82.20	\$91.02	\$97.14

- (2) (a) Budget for payments to school bus contractors for providing services (excluding seat belt allocations);

(\$M)	FY03/04	FY04/05	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08	FY08/09
Budget	\$60.72	\$61.77	\$64.42	\$66.51	\$73.40	\$77.99
% of Budget	86.4%	88.8%	86.0%	84.7%	85.4%	85.0%

Budget for payment to bus companies for student fare concession (ie purchase of seats on buses)[3];

(\$M)	FY03/04	FY04/05	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08	FY08/09
Budget	\$3.81	\$3.04	\$3.07	\$3.24	\$3.40	\$2.65
% of Budget	5.4%	4.4%	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	2.9%

- (b) Budget for conveyance allowances;

Extract from Hansard
[COUNCIL - Thursday, 13 August 2009]
p5910b-5911a
Hon Nigel Hallett; Hon Simon O'Brien

(\$M)	FY03/04	FY04/05	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08	FY08/09
Budget	\$1.39	\$1.27	\$1.27	\$1.30	\$1.65	\$1.98
% of Budget	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%	1.9%	2.2%

(3) Cost per Contracted Km (School Bus)

The cost per contracted kilometre represents the cost of administering school bus services on a kilometre basis. It is calculated by dividing the total cost of school bus contracts and operating expenses by the total contracted kilometres.

Cost per child (School Bus)

The cost per child represents the transportation cost on a student basis. This represents the subsidy per child the Government provides to families. It is calculated by dividing the total cost of school bus contracts and operating expenses by the estimated total number of students carried.

Cost per child (Conveyance)

The cost per child conveyance represents the cost of conveyance allowances on a student basis. This represents the subsidy per child the Government provides to families. It is calculated by dividing the total cost of conveyance allowances paid by the number of students carried.

(4) Performance measurements and measures;

Measure	FY04/05	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08
Cost per Contracted Km (School Bus)	\$2.61	\$2.69	\$2.85	\$3.08
Cost per Child (School Bus)	\$2 953	\$3 007	\$3 033	\$3 339
Cost per Child (Conveyance)	\$194	234	246	270

The table represents the amount of funding increase the Government commits to contractor payments and paying families a conveyance allowance to meet some of the cost of transporting their children to school or to a bus stop.

As transport assistance is entitlement based, performance measurement targets are met on the basis that the PTA is spending its budget as cost efficiently as possible, eg reviewing school bus routes to ensure it can maximise service delivery to as many families as possible within the constraints of the budget.

[1] Non managed budget includes items such as staff costs — salaries, super etc, vehicle leases & rego, travelling expenses, stationery, computers & consumables, postages, advertising, telephones etc

[2] The recurrent budgets are based on the estimated actuals as published in the budget papers.

[3] This refers to entitled students who travel on Regular Passenger Services eg South West Coachlines, which are licensed by DPI and are not under a contract arrangement. PTA has an arrangement where it pays a fare per student carried.