

AVONLINK SERVICE

1330. Hon DARREN WEST to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) How many fare-paying passengers travelled on the *AvonLink* for each of the following months in 2016: February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September and October?
- (2) What was the average number of passengers per trip in each of those months?
- (3) What was the total taxpayer subsidy per passenger, including any subsidy paid through royalties for regions, in each of those months?

Hon COL HOLT replied:

On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Transport, I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The number of fare-paying passengers is: February, 1 846; March, 1 914; April, 1 888; May, 2 039; June, 1 808; July, 1 848; August, 1 646; September, 1 822; and October, 1 456.
- (2) The average number of fare-paying passengers per trip is: February, 15.6; March, 18.1; April, 16.6; May, 16.2; June, 15.1; July, 15.4; August, 12.8; September, 15.2; and October 11.9.
- (3) The *AvonLink* railcars are used for both the *AvonLink* and *MerredinLink* train services and therefore the costs to provide these services and the fare revenue collected are all inclusive. It is therefore not possible to accurately separate the costs to provide an accurate per passenger subsidy for the *AvonLink*. The direct taxpayer subsidy per non-paying and paying passenger received from government for both the *AvonLink* and the *MerredinLink* services in the 2015–16 financial year was \$76.96.