

Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings.

Portfolio:	Public Transport
Witness:	Mr Paul Younis
Committee Member:	Mr James Newbury MP
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Question:

Mr YOUNIS: Mr Newbury, the train noise: as we change the network all the time, there are issues in relation to the changes in the way that the trains operate across the network and train horns are used differently across the network. So we are continually working with our community about managing that, working with MTM about managing that. Most of the calls go to MTM, and we would not have a record of what they are.

Mr NEWBURY: Thank you. If there is any further information that you do not have with you, do you mind providing me that on notice?

Mr YOUNIS: If there is any further information I can add, then I will.

Answer:

The Department of Transport is working with public transport operators and the Australian Rail Track Corporation to identify opportunities to reduce the impact of train horn noise on the community. As part of this process, the Department of Transport (DoT) has commenced a train horn working group to identify opportunities to reduce the impact of train horn noise on the community.

Train horns are regulated to ensure they are loud enough to be effective, while being as unobtrusive as possible. As part of the Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983, sound emitted by trains in running is exempt from any clauses in the Environment Protection Act 1970 and Local Government Act 1989. Any modifications to train horn noise and usage must be compliant with the national Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board (RISSB) standard AS7532-2016.

DoT will continue to work with operators to identify other areas to reduce the impact of train noise and undertake the requisite risk assessments in consultation with workplace health and safety representatives.