
Sent: Monday, 3 November 2008 12:39 PM

Subject: SUBMISSION REGARDING PROPOSED RAIL FARE INCREASES

SUBMISSION REGARDING PROPOSED RAIL FARES 2009

I would like to strongly object to the raising of rail fares for the following reasons

* As a resident of Cowan (Yes part of the metropolitan area but only serviced by a handful of Central Coast trains), so due to the large amount of people now living in that area that do catch the train, there are never or very rarely any seats - So why do I have to pay to stand up all the way to the city - Surely this cannot be classed as a service! At least quite a few years ago we had access to both North Shore trains & Central Coast trains, but in someone's wisdom the north shore trains now terminate at Brora leaving Cowan out of the loop. How strange that Brora & Cowan have the same postcode but not the same services.

* Ticket machine - if that is what you can call it!!!! For many many years now we have been putting up with a very small machine that does not issue weekly tickets as it does not take notes hence fun & games always at your destination when you have to explain why you dont have a ticket. Numerous phone calls to Cityrail to find out if we are every going to have this machine replaced always results in the answer 'not enough tickets are bought there to warrant a machine'. Wait a minute if there is no machine there that accepts notes & gosh the destination you want to go to isnt on that machine logic would tell you there will never be enough people buying there tickets there. Also as this is an unmanned station we dont have the 'luxury' of a ticket office. What a great service so far

* There is a pathetic little waiting room on both sides of the station (which are more often than not locked), and woe betide us if it rains because we all have to shelter under a roof of approx 6ft x 6ft.

* Cowan also has the dubious means of accessing the trains travelling south by a foot crossing straight over the railway lines - there is a boom gate & bells and a lot of near misses!!!!

* Toilets - Cowan must have the most pristine toilets in the country - always locked. Good work Cityrail another great service . Going to the toilet would have to be a right & not a privilege I would think.

* Cityrail must be seriously kidding themselves if they think that the average commuter household earns \$97000. If we did we wouldnt need to worry about the trains, we could drive.

* The filthy disgusting state of Cowan Station is an eyesore & needs to be cleaned up & beautified (at least commuters would think they are getting something for the money they pay)

I strongly object to an increase