



Sean Dillon MP

Member for Gregory

MEDIA RELEASE – NEW BUS SERVICE TO LAUNCH IN BLACKALL-TAMBO REGION

June 6, 2025

Residents in the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council area will have greater access to public transport through an innovative trial of free bus services in the region.

The Queensland Government is partnering with the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council to support a two-year trial designed to increase transport connections to essential medical, education and community services.

A new bus supported by the Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) Translink Division will be handed over to Blackall Tambo Regional Council on June 13, 2025.

The wheelchair-accessible bus has capacity for 24 passengers and is equipped with features including a bull bar, accessible entry step and luggage rack.

Free bus services are scheduled to launch on June 17, 2025, and will initially operate between Blackall, Tambo and Jericho four times per week. The local services will provide connections to existing long distance passenger coach services operating between Longreach and Rockhampton. It will also allow connections to the State regulated air routes running out of Longreach.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council will be responsible for driver recruitment, service timetable planning and route planning of the service, which will also provide critical connectivity to accessing services providing health, jobs and education.

The critical part of this trial is gathering the data and travel behaviours of the community. This will be used to guide future planning of services in the region.

Member for Gregory Sean Dillon welcomed the trial, saying it would provide critical access to a number of services.

"Our priority is to ensure we are investing in services to increase access to health, jobs and education," Mr Dillon said.

"The delivery of the new bus is an exciting milestone and we are hopeful we will see greater connectivity to our other regional transport services.

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"The Queensland Government is proud to be working with the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council to plan and deliver services that meet the needs of the community."

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Mayor Andrew Martin said council had been working with TMR to assess options for passenger transport services to link local communities.

"The bus trial will allow us to design a service that will link to long distance coach passenger services that travel between Longreach and Rockhampton," Mayor Martin said.

"We need people to get on board so we can secure public transport for our region."

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