

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics:

Nhulunbuy School Bus Service

1. Please advise when the Department will have a bus service running for school students who reside and attend school in Nhulunbuy?

Katherine Coaches have been engaged to service the four school bus routes; however, the start date is dependent on the buses arriving in Nhulunbuy.

The buses were scheduled to arrive in Nhulunbuy on Tuesday 26 March 2024; however, due to the current weather conditions, Seaswift has postponed the delivery of buses to prioritise critical goods. A revised delivery date is yet to be confirmed.

All four school bus routes are anticipated to be operating with Katherine Coaches from Term 2, providing the buses are able to be placed on the Seaswift barge and arrive in time.

A public tender was released on Monday 25 March 2024.

2. Please advise of all school bus services and contracts for the Gove Peninsula region for 2024.

The school bus tender comprises of four routes.

Currently, North East Arnhem Land (NEAL) is covering three of the four bus routes; utilising one bus and a driver.

The routes are as follows:

7:15am service: Ski Beach – Nhulunbuy Schools;

7:45am service: Nhulunbuy Schools – Yirrkala;

8:05am service: Yirrkala – Nhulunbuy Schools; and

2:30pm service: Nhulunbuy Schools – Yirrkala – Ski Beach – Town.

Once Katherine Coaches commences, all four school bus routes will be operating.