

I object to any fare increase until such time as there is some improvement in service.

The trains are dirty (cleaning during the day is almost non-existent), overcrowded (insufficient carriages), poorly ventilated (air conditioning rarely works anywhere near satisfactorily and is always set at an inexplicable temperature) and are less than reliable for time.

I find the income figures produced rather startling; to suggest the average rail commuter earns 30% more than the average Sydney resident I find very hard to believe and would suggest the figures are distorted. While on the income figures of passengers:- what does the household income have to do with anything? While my household income would be a little short of the figure stated; My household does not travel by train. I am the one catching the train. My wife travels by car so why should her income be included in my rail expenditure figure? My wife does not buy any portion of my ticket and including her income is a distortion of the facts (do the income figures allow for my wife's transport costs?).

In this time of 'Global Warming' City Rail and the NSW Government should be showing some form of responsibility. Increasing fares, especially by the large margin proposed will reduce train travel at a time when we should be encouraging more use of the public transport system. More customers would increase revenue and help to reduce our carbon footprint but the Government, through City Rail, has to start showing some initiative. Not increasing fares would be a good start.

G Cook