

Sent: Tuesday, 4 November 2008 9:29 AM

submission to the tribunal re cityrail fare increases

Date **4 November 2008-11-04**
Subject **CityRail review of CityRail fares 2009-2012**

Dear Sir

I would like to protest against the price increases for rail fares recommended in your draft report dated October 2008. We were advised that rail fare increases would be subject to improvement in services. At this time I can only state that, my experiences indicate that rail services over the last 5 years have decreased not increased.

There appears to be an increase in;

- Overcrowding of trains (nearly impossible to get a place on a Central to Campbelltown station between 5.00 pm and 6.00 pm weekdays); many times if I can get on the train I am squished into such a small place.
- Lack of appropriate air conditioning (in winter you freeze, in summer you melt)
- Increase in breakdowns and delays during peak hour;
- Increase in rail security (except at night, weekends or in high crime area's)
- Increase in rubbish on trains;
- Delays and cancellations of trains due to maintenance work or breakdowns.

There does appear to be a decrease in:

- Number of services run during peak hour;

I would question why a fare increase of 18% as of 1 January 2009 and a 30% increase over the next four years could be justified without any visible gains in productivity or service. I agree that that fare increases are required CPI increases should be sufficient.

Under the current financial situation most employees will not see pay increases equal to the current CPI and further burden on overstretched household incomes are not required.

I am a sole parent who works full time at Central. Don't you think that I have enough financial worries at the moment? If the fares increase as predicted it would be almost Too expensive to travel to work. I would be better off on the sole parents pension

Thank you