

20/10/08

To whom it may concern,

I am writing regarding the review of CityRail fares from 2009 and regulatory framework.

I have been using the rail system from Kingswood to The city for the last 5 years. Over that time there have already been a large number of price increases with no perceived benefit to me, the commuter.

Each time there is a price rise we are told this is to deliver the commuter new and improved trains. Not once Have I had a new millennium trains on my daily trip to or from the city. Each day we have to get an old silver train, it is only in the last few months that I have regularly been seeing a Tangara train during the times I travel. The Tangara's are even less comfortable then the silver cartridges, as well as being poorly designed and rather uncomfortable for an hour journey..

During peak times, the trains are often over crowded by the time they even get to town hall, and the platforms are full. The latest timetable changes have only made this problem worse.

Your estimation of the earning of people who catch the train are grossly overestimated. Most people who earn that much live within minutes of the city or even drive to work on the overcrowded roads.

Being a young man who is trying to set himself up reasonably by paying off a cheap house, I tend to struggle week to week. The constant raising of all the costs, especially a base transport cost would be too much. Especially for a journey I find myself standing on a dirty train most of the time.

I have yet to see better service in any form from city rail, yet constantly hear about the high ups in city rail getting large payments. If city rail needs more money for its plans, then reduce the fat cats pay raises rather than slug the commuter.

Let me see one of the politicians or top brass at city rail survive by travelling to and from work for more than the 5 minutes the media is watching at a media event. We all know its staged, get over it.

People from my area don't chose to travel city rail, we are forced to.