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NO WAY! to fare increases

Here are my reasons why:

1. Late running trains (outside of the 5 min allowed late running time).
2. Crowded trains – due to the reduction in the number of services or late running.
3. Broken down trains stopping others from moving.
4. Slow trains because the train is ‘keeping to schedule’
5. Trains stopped for unknown reasons (and not explained by the guard)
6. Trains stopped while another train ‘clears the platform’ (because it was late itself – see reasons above)
7. Unclean trains – carriages not cleaned overnight
8. Missed connections at Hornsby due to any of the points above
9. Longer travelling times due to ‘new timetable’ and 5 minute ‘leeway’ to ‘keep trains on time’!
10. Inaccurate/false statements made by the ‘minister for trains’ (perhaps we need a totally dedicated person for trains alone) who states that Sydney commuters are on a very good wicket compared to services in London.
11. Dodgy surveys of people re their use and thoughts on the city rail system – results to be used as a basis for fare increases.

It seems that ‘train ministers’ come and go with no real change or improvements for commuters. Considering that I pay over \$1200 per year for travel between Woy Woy and North Sydney I seriously expect a better service. Fares should be reduced to compensate commuters for the lack of a reliable service.

In summary: Fare increases are not warranted.

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