

**Stephen Baker**  
28/03/2006

Proposed Fare Increase

Dear Sir,

I have followed with interest the submission by city rail to increase their prices.

I wish to object to these increases on the ground that they have not improved their service to a satisfactory level, being a annual ticket holder that travels form Gosford to the city via the north shore line for the past 15 years I do have some grounds to base my reasoning upon.

When the new timetable started in September the running time added 1 hour and 40 minutes to my weekly travel time, but I did think that at least they may run on time. For the first few weeks they were on time then in Nov things started to slip back with trains running a few minutes late. Then on 2 occasions the train was suddenly terminated at Hornsby without any reason being given. I did later hear it was because the driver did not know the track and could only drive the train to Gosford empty due to safety reasons. Since then it has slid further and in any one week I now expect the train to run late or be cancelled at least 4 times which equated to me personally a figure of 40% of my journeys.

Also the rains run less frequently resulting in over crowed carriages, air conditioning that will either freeze you or fry you as it blowing hot air on a hot day which makes for a very uncomfortable journey of over 90 minutes or longer if the train is running late.

I am reluctant to pay any increase until the on time running is 95% for my journeys, the carriages are cleaned as I do not like sitting in the previous days rubbish first thing in the morning and we have trains every day that have toilets and seats that you can reverse to enable you to face forwards.

Regards

Stephen Baker