

**POLICY ON DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IN RELATION TO  
LICENCE-HOLDERS**

Section 38 of the Taxi Regulation Act 2003 requires the Commission to keep a register of licences to include the following details:

- (a) the name and address of the holder,*
- (b) any change of address of the holder,*
- (c) the licence number,*
- (d) where the licence is granted in respect of a vehicle, the unique identification mark (registration number) of the said vehicle,*
- (e) the driver number of the holder of a licence, that is to say the number of the driving licence granted to the holder,*
- (f) the category of small public service vehicle in respect of which a licence has been granted,*
- (g) the date of the grant of a licence,*
- (h) the area of application in respect of which the licence has been granted, where appropriate,*
- (i) details of any transfer of ownership of a licence or of the continuance in force of a licence in respect of a different vehicle,*

*(j) details of any suspension applying to a licence, including the period of the suspension, a reference to the reason for the suspension and particulars of all removals of such suspensions,*

*(k) details of the revocation of a licence and the reasons for the revocation.*

By virtue of section 38(5), having consulted the Garda Commissioner, it has been agreed that certain personal information should remain confidential. For example, the address of a licence-holder or the reasons for any suspension or revocation of a licence will not be disclosed.

Section 28 of the Freedom of Information Act 1997 expressly provides that a public body shall not disclose personal information. Section 28(1) provides:

*Subject to the provisions of this section, a head shall refuse to grant a request under section 7 if, in the opinion of the head, access to the record concerned would involve the disclosure of personal information (including personal information relating to a deceased individual).*

The Commission also has obligations under the Data Protection Acts 1988 & 2003 which provide that information may be obtained only for *one or more specified explicit and legitimate purposes*.

**SUMMARY OF COMMISSION POLICY**

In light of these various statutory provisions and to protect against misuse of information and avoid any security risk to drivers and operators, the Commission has adopted the policy of not disclosing private information concerning a licence-holder such as his or her address. Similarly, information relating to the reasons for the suspension or revocation of any licence will not be disclosed. This information will be available to members of the public from the register held in the Commission's offices **only** on foot of a request in writing for a certificate relating to the SPSV register under section 38(6) of our Act.

(An exchange of information may occur in the ordinary course between the Commission and other State agencies for the purpose of, among other matters, preventing, detecting or investigating offences).

9 February 2007