

Press Release

Taxi Fare Revision Process Completed by Commission for Taxi Regulation

(22nd September 2008) The Commission for Taxi Regulation has completed its public consultation process on the revision of the National Maximum Taxi Fare and announced changes to the fare effective from November 1st 2008.

The fare revision follows a public consultation process which began in April 2008. In making its decision the Commission took into account the views of those that made submissions during the public consultation period, industry representatives, the Advisory Council to the Commission and other key stakeholders. Economic consultants also undertook a review of the costs of operating in the business and these results were also given due weight.

The changes reflect the increased costs of owning and operating a taxi since the National Maximum Taxi Fare was implemented in September 2006. The revisions to the fare are;

- An increase in the standard and premium initial charges and subsequent tariffs of 8.3%
- Christmas Eve 20:00h to St Stephen's Day 8:00h and 20:00h New Year's Eve to 8:00h New Year's Day will now be charged at the highest tariff rate to address under supply on those days
- An increase in the soiling charge from €125 to €140

There will be no increase in the additional charges for extra passengers and booking charge

The changes will mean that the initial charge displayed when a customer hires a taxi will be €4.10 (standard rate) or €4.45 (premium rate). The new national maximum taxi fare will come into operation on November 1st 2008 and drivers will have a three-week period from that date to ensure that their taximeters are calibrated with the new fare.

Commissioner for Taxi Regulation, Kathleen Doyle said; "The new fare has been set with due consideration for both taxi drivers and consumers. It is important that drivers have sufficient reward for their work, whilst a balance must be struck to ensure that the service remains affordable and demand is sustained. This review has been completed two years after the introduction of the National Maximum Taxi Fare, and we are making a commitment to a further review before the end of 2010."

All vehicle licence holders will receive new in-vehicle information cards and sun visor stickers prior to the 1st of November. The full details of the revised fare can be found on our website www.taxiregulator.ie It should be noted that the fare continues to be a Maximum fare and can be discounted at a driver's discretion.

Ends

For Industry Information Lo-Call: 1890 347 347