

Commission for Taxi Regulation Publishes Fare Revision Consultation Paper

(April 7th 2008) The Commission for Taxi Regulation has today published 'Consultation Paper No. 5, National Maximum Taxi Fare Revision'. The Paper invites views from anyone with an interest in the taxi industry; including drivers, dispatch operators, customers and representative bodies, on whether certain aspects of the National Maximum Taxi Fare should be changed this year. Following consultation, a decision will be made later in 2008.

The Commission for Taxi Regulation introduced a new National Maximum Taxi Fare Structure and rate to apply across the entire country in September 2006 and at that time committed to revise the fare on an ongoing basis, with a full revision scheduled to take place no later than 2008.

Commissioner for Taxi Regulation, Kathleen Doyle said; "The Commission believes that the introduction of a National Maximum Taxi Fare and single Taximeter Area has greatly enhanced the service provided to the public and been of benefit to the industry. It does however make sense to assess the individual aspects of the fare on a regular basis, to take account of market conditions, economic changes and such like.

We would encourage all members of the industry, taxi users, and indeed anyone with an interest, to make views on this important consultation known to the Commission. Once we have received and reviewed all submissions, considered our own research and receive the advice of the Advisory Council to the Commission on the matter, we will make public a decision on the revision."

Whilst the Commission welcomes any views on the National Maximum Taxi Fare, it is specifically seeking views on the following key items;

- Should the current national maximum taxi fare increase, decrease or remain the same?
- Should any increase or decrease be reflected in the initial charge only, at both standard rates and premium rates?
- In addition should the current tariffs both at standard rates and premium rates increase/decrease/remain the same?
- Should the booking charge increase, decrease or remain the same?
- Should the fee for extra passengers increase, decrease or remain the same?
- Should the soiling charge increase, decrease or remain the same?

A copy of the Consultation Paper will be issued to all licence holders and key stakeholders, additional copies can be requested by calling the Commission's information line on 1890 60 60 90 or emailing commission@taxiregulator.ie

Comments and submissions in relation to the Consultation Document should be clearly marked *Response to Consultation Paper No. 5* and forwarded in writing, to the Commission electronically at: commission@taxiregulator.ie or by post to Response to Consultation Paper No. 5, Commission for Taxi Regulation, 35 Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin 2.

Submissions should arrive no later than **5:00pm on the 13th June 2008**. A decision will be made later this year.

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A full copy of the Consultation Paper is available on request or from the Commission website – www.taxiregulator.ie