

Press Release

Commission for Taxi Regulation Welcomes Submissions on Fare Revision

(17 June 2008) The Commission for Taxi Regulation has welcomed the submissions received on 'Consultation Paper No. 5, National Maximum Taxi Fare Revision' which was published on 7th April 2008. The closing date for the receipt of submissions was the 13th June 2008.

Commissioner for Taxi Regulation Kathleen Doyle commented, "We have received a large volume of submissions from the industry, consumers and a variety of other interested parties. We will now begin to review the submissions, considering all views and meet with a number of representative bodies and the Advisory Council to the Commission before making a decision. It is imperative that the review takes into account market conditions and economic changes whilst considering both drivers and customers. "

The Consultation Paper sought views from everyone 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. Key items for consideration included;

- 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?

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.

The current review focuses on taxi fare rates. Given the recent introduction of the National Maximum Taxi Fare it is not proposed to carry out any structural reforms. Any issues raised in relation to the overall structure of the fare will be incorporated into any future structural reviews.

The Commission for Taxi Regulation will conclude its fare revision process in the third quarter of 2008.

Ends

Notes for Editors

The Minister for Transport established the Commission for Taxi Regulation as an Independent Public Body under Part 2 of the Taxi Regulation Act 2003 on 1st September 2004. The principal function of the Commission is the development and maintenance of a regulatory framework for the control and operation of small public service vehicles (SPSVs) and their drivers.

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