



# Transport

Mr James Cox  
Acting Chairman and  
Chief Executive Officer  
PO Box Q290  
QVB Post Office  
SYDNEY NSW 1230

Dear Mr Cox

## Taxi Fares 2010/11

I am writing to advise you that I have determined taxi fares for urban and country areas, which will take effect from Monday, 12 July 2010.

I have accepted IPART's recommendations on the level of increases that should apply.

I have also accepted IPART's recommendation that:

- The maxi-cab tariff should be triggered for five (rather than six) passengers, noting that vehicles with front bench seats and room for six passengers are no longer being made.
- A flat fare for trips between the airport and Sydney CBD should not be introduced, given that the disadvantages appear to outweigh the possible advantages. Instead, I will be looking for other ways to provide clear and simple information to passengers on authorised maximum fares and typical costs of travel on this key route.

I have noted the other recommendations that IPART has made and will consider them in due course. In particular, note that recommendations relating to the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme and the conduct of passenger satisfaction surveys are matters for NSW Government policy and will be addressed in the Government's response to the Legislative Council's Select Committee of Inquiry into the NSW Taxi Industry.

In relation to your request for approval to publish IPART's analysis of individual network performance data, I wish to advise that Transport NSW is currently finalising arrangements with the industry to publish disaggregated performance information for trips booked through taxi networks in Sydney, Newcastle,

Wollongong and the Central Coast from 1 July 2010. This data will be published on a monthly basis from about mid-August (which is when TNSW receives data for July) with the aim of improving transparency and accountability in the taxi industry.

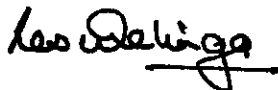
In keeping with the spirit of TNSWs' discussions on this matter with the industry, I believe it would be premature for IPART to publish disaggregated data for the 2009/10 financial year in this year's report. I believe, however, that IPART should be able to make use of 2009/10 data in its 2010/11 report, so as to be able to compare performance trends.

In addition, Transport NSW is also undertaking a broad review of taxi network performance standards and reporting, including publication of an Issues Paper for public comment in the next couple of months. I would welcome IPART's contribution to this review process.

Finally, I note that IPART has indicated its intention to continue to undertake a mid-year review of movements in LPG prices, though proposing to life the threshold from a 10% to a 20% movement in price before making a recommendation to change fares.

As I indicated in my letter dated 22 December 2009, I continue to be of the view that there insufficient benefits to warrant continuation of these reviews other than in exceptional circumstances which should be decided, in consultation with TNSW, on a case-by-case basis.

Yours sincerely



Les Wielinga  
Director General

24.06.10