



INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30am - MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2005

MODEST INCREASES IN BUS FARES UNDER IPART DETERMINATION

Single fares on Sydney's government buses, private buses and the Liverpool-Parramatta Transitway will rise by between 10 and 20 cents from January 3, under a determination released today by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

Prices will not rise for some TravelTen tickets on Sydney's government buses, joint bus-ferry-train TravelPasses, Daytripper tickets, Sports Special return fares and School Student Term Passes.

TravelTen tickets which are increased will rise by no more than 17 cents per trip, bus-ferry TravelPass tickets will increase by either \$1 or \$2 and BusTripper tickets will go up by 40 cents.

Liverpool-Parramatta Transitway 10 tickets and Transitway weekly fares will rise by between 40 cents and \$2.10.

IPART Chairman Dr Michael Keating said the small increases in ticket prices balance the interests of passengers with the needs of the bus industry.

"Costs in the bus industry have continued to increase since IPART's last determination," Dr Keating said. "These small fare increases will help offset those rising costs, but are not expected to have significant adverse effects on passengers or the environment.

"There have been some improvements in service quality, although the picture is mixed," he added. "The Tribunal concluded that there is scope for efficiency improvements in the metropolitan bus industry, especially for Sydney Buses, and has determined fares in the expectation that efficiency will be improved."

IPART has also determined small increases in bus fares in Newcastle from January 3, broadly in line with the average annual increase in the cost of providing bus services.

This will mean rises of 10 cents for 1-hour tickets, 20 cents for 4-hour tickets and 30 cents for All-Day tickets. TimeTen 1-hour tickets will go up by 8 cents per hour and Orange TravelPasses rise by \$1. All other Newcastle TravelPass prices are unchanged. Stockton Ferry tickets also remain unchanged.

The full IPART Determination reports are available on the Tribunal's Web site at www.ipart.nsw.gov.au

Further Information: James Cox - IPART Chief Executive Officer - (02) 9290 8411

Changes in adult fares for Newcastle Services

Ticket type	2005 Price	2006 Price	Absolute Change
1 Hour	\$2.70	\$2.80	\$0.10
4 Hours	\$5.30	\$5.50	\$0.20
TimeTen 1 Hour	\$22.30	\$23.10	\$0.80
All Day	\$8.10	\$8.40	\$0.30
Stockton Ferry	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$0.00
Orange TravelPass	\$36.00	\$37.00	\$1.00
Yellow TravelPass	\$44.00	\$44.00	\$0.00
Pink TravelPass	\$47.00	\$47.00	\$0.00