

I support David Barr's proposal to keep prices down for commuters and increasing the differential between tourists and infrequent travellers and regular commuters.

It is ridiculous that those of us commuting to work via the water have to pay exorbitant fares whilst those using buses, which wear down the roads infrastructure, add to the traffic issues and pollute the air, get price breaks. The ferries should be a viable, cost effective method of transport for those many of us living in the northern beaches and working in the city. It's a big expense relatively from the pay packet for many and the costs just escalate way above our pay rises every year.

Public transport is not a luxury, it is a necessity!

I think Mr. Barr has proposed a very reasonable solution – for those who treat the ferries as a luxury – i.e. as tourists – have them pay the luxury prices. For those of us using them as a necessity, keep the costs in line with what just a worker earns. The ferries transport huge numbers of us effectively to work – their role in the public transport scenario is always downplayed yet heads are scratched when alternatives to our heavily overloaded road system are pondered.

Too many politicians and government officials are divorced from the realities of commuting on public transport. If they did use the public transport system, I think the rulings handed down would be very different.

Kind regards

Ann Vavasour