



**Dominic Perrottet**

Treasurer

**Andrew Constance**

Minister for Transport and Roads

**Paul Toole**

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday, 22 May 2020

### **\$12.6 MILLION FOR TAXI INDUSTRY SUPPORT PACKAGE**

The NSW Government has today announced a \$12.6 million support package for the taxi industry to provide operators with some financial relief during the COVID-19 shutdown and help taxis remain on the road.

Treasurer Dominic Perrottet and Minister for Transport and Roads Andrew Constance said the financial assistance recognises the challenges the taxi industry is facing as a result of this pandemic.

“With a large decrease in passenger trips being taken the taxi industry is really suffering, like so many others. The NSW Government is committed to doing what we can to keep businesses in business and people in jobs and this includes helping taxis stay on our roads,” Mr Perrottet said.

“Taxis play an important role in NSW and the industry has continued to provide essential passenger services during the COVID-19 crisis. This includes Wheelchair Accessible Taxis (WATs) that provide services for some of our most vulnerable members of the community,” Mr Constance said.

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Paul Toole said the funding would help ease the pressure for taxis operating in the bush.

“In some more isolated regional areas, taxi services are considered the public transport system. The NSW Government is committed to providing assistance to eligible registered taxi vehicle owners to ensure services in regional areas can continue,” Mr Toole said.

The support package provides owners of WATs and taxis operating at 1 May 2020 with a \$2,900 subsidy per vehicle for six-months costs towards CTP insurance, registration fees and other on-road costs. This will support around 3,500 taxis to continue to operate across NSW. To apply for the subsidy operators will be able to claim through the Service NSW website, [www.service.nsw.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/covid-19), or at a Service NSW Centre from June.

In addition, those currently holding a renewable annual taxi licence issued by the NSW Government will receive a 50 per cent waiver of their annual licence fee. Eligible taxi licence holders will be contacted by the NSW Point to Point Transport Commissioner’s office.

The support package also provides a \$500 waiver of 2018/19 authorisation fees for all authorised service providers, which represents a full annual fee waiver for over 1,800 smaller service providers. For more information visit <https://www.pointtopoint.nsw.gov.au/>.

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## **FAST FACTS**

### **Available assistance includes:**

- **\$2.52 million in financial assistance to WAT vehicle owners** to ensure they can continue to provide services to the most vulnerable members of our community. This support will provide \$2,900 to the owner of each registered WAT reflecting a six-month subsidy of CTP insurance, registration fees and other on road costs. To be eligible for this payment you must be registered or reregister the vehicle by 30 June 2020. Applications are anticipated to open in June 2020 through Service NSW.
- **\$7.54 million to provide support for the owners of other registered taxis as at 1 May.** This will provide \$2,900 to the owner of each vehicle registered as a non-WAT taxi on 1 May 2020 reflecting a six-month subsidy of CTP insurance, registration fees and other on road costs. Any vehicle de-registered since 1 May 2020 can be re-registered by 30 June 2020 to be eligible. Applications are anticipated to open in June 2020 through Service NSW.
- **\$1.55m has been set aside** to cover up to six months of the taxi licence fee to holders of annual renewable taxi licences issued by the NSW Government. This will provide around \$7,000 assistance to these licence holders.
- **\$968,000 has been set aside** to provide a waiver of the first \$500 payable of the 2018/19 authorisation fees for all authorised service providers, which includes taxi service providers and booking service providers.