

# Towards a new commercial passenger vehicle transport system for Victoria

## SUPPORT FOR TAXI AND HIRE CAR LICENCE HOLDERS



The Victorian Government is supporting the taxi and hire car industry while it gets on with regulating rideshare and creating safer, more responsive services for passengers.

Recognising these reforms will have financial impacts on some taxi and hire car licence holders, the government is introducing a Fairness Fund and Industry Assistance Package to assist the industry.

The support package has been expanded following consultation with the taxi and hire car industry, to provide fairer and more immediate support.

### Fairness Fund

A Fairness Fund will provide targeted support for taxi and hire car licence owners that need it most. \$50 million has been allocated to the Fund for financial support payments.

The Fund is now open and will close on 30 April 2017.

Applications will be assessed as soon as they are received and, in priority cases, applicants may qualify for an early payment.

Application forms are available for download from [www.transport.vic.gov.au/fairness-fund](http://www.transport.vic.gov.au/fairness-fund) or licence holders can call the dedicated support line on **1800 875 122** to have one sent in the post.

The Fairness Fund will also provide an important additional funding source to support the provision of accessible transport services in the future.

**WEstjustice** is available to help licence holders fill out the Fairness Fund application forms:

#### Footscray office

Level 1, 72 Buckley Street,  
Footscray, VIC 3011

[admin@westjustice.org.au](mailto:admin@westjustice.org.au)

T: (03) 9749 7720

F: (03) 9749 8276

#### Werribee office

Level 1, 8 Watton Street,  
Werribee, VIC 3030

[admin@westjustice.org.au](mailto:admin@westjustice.org.au)

T: (03) 9749 7720

F: (03) 9749 8276

### Industry Transition Assistance

In addition to the Fairness Fund, licence holders will also have access to an Industry Assistance Package, which will provide fair and reasonable assistance to help them transition to the new legislative framework.

Taxi and hire car licence holders that own perpetual and fixed term licences where the licence fee was paid upfront will receive transition assistance payments after the Government's reforms become law.

On 30 November 2016 the Government announced that, following consultation with the taxi and hire car industry, eligible licence holders will receive payments for up to four licences (previously only two).

Payments will also be paid to licence owners in full over two years instead of eight years. This will provide more targeted and immediate assistance for all affected licence holders.

Transition assistance payments will be paid to eligible licence holders in addition to any payments made under the Fairness Fund.

Most annual fee paying taxi licence holders will receive a rebate when they renew their licences over the transition period.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

### More information

Visit [www.transport.vic.gov.au/ride-share](http://www.transport.vic.gov.au/ride-share)



**Table 1**

<b>Taxis</b>	<b>First licence</b>	<b>Second, third and fourth licence</b>
Perpetual metropolitan taxi licence	\$100,000	\$50,000
Perpetual urban taxi licence	\$100,000	\$50,000
Perpetual regional taxi licence	\$50,000	\$25,000
Perpetual country taxi licence	\$15,000	\$7,500
Greater metropolitan taxi licence release*	\$33,750	\$16,875
Other fixed term taxi licences (Annual, Peak service)		Annual fee rebate

  

<b>Hire cars</b>	<b>First licence</b>	<b>Second, third and fourth licence</b>
Perpetual metropolitan hire car licence	\$25,000	\$12,500
Perpetual country hire car licence	\$12,500	\$6,250
Special purpose vehicle licence	\$1,250	\$625

To be eligible for the payments above, the licence holder must: a) have held the licence on 15 August 2016, and b) continue to hold the licence.

\*For conventional licences that were purchased up-front for ten years.

### Industry support

A dedicated support line has been established to provide support for industry. Call 1800 875 122 to find out more about:

- the Fairness Fund
- referrals for assistance in applying to the Fairness Fund
- contacts for financial advice
- where appropriate, information on how to access wellbeing support.

For further information on the Fairness Fund or to download an application, visit [www.transport.vic.gov.au/fairness-fund](http://www.transport.vic.gov.au/fairness-fund).

If you would like a Fairness Fund application form to be mailed to you, please email [fairnessfund@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:fairnessfund@ecodev.vic.gov.au) with your name, address and contact number.

### More information

Visit [www.transport.vic.gov.au/ride-share](http://www.transport.vic.gov.au/ride-share)

