



Duncan Pegg MP

Member for Stretton

Media Release

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Priority Taxis for Wheelchair Users

Taxi waiting times for wheelchair users in Stretton are improving with the Palaszczuk Government providing \$5.6 million in incentive payments across Queensland to the drivers of wheelchair accessible taxis (WATs).

State Member for Stretton, Duncan Pegg, said drivers would be encouraged to prioritise bookings made by Taxi Subsidy Scheme (TSS) wheelchair users with a new \$20 Lift Payment.

“The new \$20 Lift Payment is expected to give the drivers of wheelchair accessible taxis an added incentive to give bookings placed by TSS wheelchair users the priority we know they deserve,” he said.

“It can take extra time for drivers to assist wheelchair users to board a wheelchair accessible taxi and the new \$20 Lift Payment recognises that.

“The Lift Payment benefits drivers and people in Brisbane who rely on a wheelchair for their mobility.”

“And, by making the \$20 Lift Payment available directly to drivers and operators of wheelchair accessible taxis, the Palaszczuk Government is ensuring there are no additional fare costs for TSS passengers,” he said.

Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games, Stirling Hinchliffe said the new Lift Payment applied to each eligible wheelchair accessible taxi (WAT) trip involving the transportation of a Taxi Subsidy Scheme (TSS) member travelling in a wheelchair.

“Queenslanders meeting the Taxi Subsidy Scheme’s (TSS) eligibility criteria also receive a 50 percent subsidy for taxi travel up to a maximum of \$25 per trip,” Minister Hinchliffe said.

“The Palaszczuk Government’s \$5.6 million Lift Payment incentive package is part of the \$100 million Industry Adjustment Assistance Package, which was passed by the Queensland Parliament before Christmas.

“Also included in the Industry Adjustment Assistance Package is a range of financial, advisory and incentive measures to help the taxi operators and drivers adjust to changes in the industry.”

The Minister said consultation on the next stage of personalised transport reforms was continuing with a meeting in mid-December of the Personalised Transport Industry Reference Group (PTIRG).

For more information on the Lift Payment, visit <http://personalisedtransport.tmr.qld.gov.au/>

For more information on the Taxi Subsidy Scheme, visit <https://translink.com.au/tickets-and-fares/ticket-types/disability/taxi-subsidy-scheme>

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