



# Media Release

**David Campbell MP**

**Minister for Transport**

**Minister for the Illawarra**

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## **TAXI SCHEME TO GO FROM PAPER TO PLASTIC**

27 October 2008

NSW Minister for Transport David Campbell today said the Government is determined to change from a paper docket system to an electronic payment system for people using the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme.

Mr Campbell said the Scheme provides people with disabilities with a 50% fare subsidy up to \$30 per trip for taxi travel.

“The Scheme is a very important program which enriches the lives of people who use it,” Mr Campbell said.

“The subsidy financially enables them to have the freedom of travel that many of us take for granted.”

Mr Campbell said there had already been a strong response to the Government’s recent call for Expressions of Interest for an electronic system.

“Currently, people who use the Scheme are issued with books of dockets which are used by taxi drivers to claim reimbursement for travel, but this is problematic,” Mr Campbell said.

“Paper dockets increase administrative effort, diverting resources from improving customer service and from compliance activities.

“The paper system also affects the timeliness and accuracy of data reported to the Ministry of Transport and increases the length of settlement periods to drivers.

“This improvement is good news for users of the Scheme, taxi drivers and taxpayers alike.”

Mr Campbell said the Government had invited Expressions of Interest from the private sector, and encouraged interested companies to submit before 29 October.

“A contract is expected to be awarded in mid 2009, and depending on industry responses, the new system could be rolled out from late 2009,” Mr Campbell said.

“This is another example of the Rees Government’s support of local and community transport solutions.”