

# Point to point transport reform

## Improving accessibility, choice and inclusion

### Wheelchair accessible services

- > We're committed to ensuring wheelchair accessible taxis (WATs) are available and affordable for customers who need them – and will now commit **\$15.5 million** each year to support wheelchair accessible services for point to point services. What we are doing?



Raise the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme cap from \$30 to \$60



Expanding the current WAT interest free loan scheme to help get more WATs on the road



Increase the WAT driver incentive payment from \$7.70 (ex GST) to \$15 (ex GST)



Subsidising the cost of a central booking service for WATs in Sydney, saving businesses that provide these services \$2,130 per year



Reducing WAT licence fees in metro areas to zero (in line with the rest of NSW)

- > The NSW Government has also accepted the point to point transport taskforce's recommendation to better target subsidies and incentives to improve the quality and range of services available to customers with disabilities. This review will be a priority for Transport for NSW in the coming year.

### Community transport

- > The community transport sector provides critical point to point transport services for thousands of people across the state.
- > We're committed to working with the community transport sector to adapt to these changes.
- > As part of new reforms announced by the NSW Government, community transport providers will continue to be responsible for ensuring their services are operated safely, and that their drivers have passed comprehensive background checks.
- > The reforms will offer community transport operators the potential to provide a range of new booked point to point services – if they wish to and as long as they comply with contract requirements.

### More choice in regional NSW

- > Taxis provide essential transport services in rural and regional NSW. Our reforms will reduce costs and red tape for taxis in regional areas and will help make taxi businesses more sustainable.
- > Our reforms give regional customers more choice, with new types of booked services likely to become available. Fewer restrictions on what services can be provided will encourage innovative new services that can better meet customers' needs, as well as better use of existing services.
- > For example, there will no longer be any restrictions on where booked services (including booked taxis) can be provided, with all taxi and booking companies free to provide booked services throughout the state.
- > For the first time, we will introduce annual taxi licences outside of Sydney. A Bill will be brought to Parliament in the New Year to give effect to this decision.