



The *Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016* (the Act) was passed by the NSW Parliament on 22 June 2016 and introduces a number of reforms to the point to point transport industry.

Transport for NSW is now seeking feedback on the proposed Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Regulation 2017 (the Regulation). The Regulation has been released with a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) so that interested parties can review it and provide comments and suggestions. The RIS sets out the objectives and rationale of the proposed Regulation.

Who should read this?

This fact sheet should be read by peak industry bodies, their members, those at the forefront of point to point transport services and the general community.

What should I do?

As a point to point transport stakeholder, you should:

- familiarise yourself with the point to point transport laws
- liaise with members, peers and representatives
- know who you can talk to if you have any questions
- ask questions in the event that you do not understand any part of the regulation
- plan and prepare for the changes ahead

Key aspects of the Regulation:

Safety: The Regulation specifies a number of safety standards for the provider of a passenger service, the provider of a booking service, the facilitator of an affiliated service, the affiliated provider, the holder of a taxi licence, the owner of a vehicle used to provide a passenger service and the driver. These safety standards are in relation to vehicle safety, insurance, drivers, reporting and other matters.

Fares: Maximum fares will not be regulated for booked trips, however booking service providers will be obliged to provide customers with an estimate of the fare before the booking is confirmed, including information about when the fare may be varied and any other fees or charges that may be charged. The NSW Government will continue to set maximum fares for taxis caught at a taxi rank or hailed on the street. Taxi companies will continue to be able to set fares lower than the regulated maximum for rank and hail customers.

Authorisation: The Act prescribes two entities that must be authorised: providers of passenger services (including taxi services) and providers of booking services. Booking services may be provided anywhere in the State, whether in a taxi or a hire vehicle. Only taxis, however, can undertake rank and hail work. Under the new regulatory framework anyone – including a driver – who takes their own bookings directly from customers will have to be authorised as a booking service provider. Service providers that offer rank and hail services and take bookings will need to be authorised as both a taxi service provider and a booking service provider. The proposed Regulation contains information about authorisation standards and conditions.

Education and compliance: The Point to Point Transport Commissioner will oversee enforcement of the new regulatory framework. The Commissioner is starting to work with industry to educate them on the new requirements.

Passengers Service Levy: The temporary \$1 passenger service levy will fund the \$250 million industry assistance adjustment package that the Government has established to help the industry adjust to the reforms. The \$1 levy per trip will be payable by taxi service providers and booking service providers.

What is the role of Transport for NSW, Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and the Point to Point Transport Commissioner?

Roads and Maritime Services remains the industry regulator for point to point transport services under the *Passenger Transport Act 1990*. However, once the point to point transport regulation is finalised and the *Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016* is in force, the Point to Point Transport Commissioner will be responsible for all compliance and enforcement activities.

Transport for NSW is responsible for maintaining the policy and legislation that applies to the point to point transport industry.

How do I make a formal submission?

There are two ways to submit your feedback:

Email: pointtopoint@transport.nsw.gov.au

or

Post:

Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Regulation 2017
Point to Point Implementation
Freight, Strategy and Planning
Transport for NSW
PO Box K659
Haymarket NSW 1240

The closing date for submissions is **9 May 2017**.

More information

A copy of the proposed Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Regulation 2017 and Regulatory Impact Statement as well as the latest updates on the point to point transport reforms are available at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/pointtopoint.

Point to Point Information – our dedicated contact centre that helps stakeholders access information about changes in the point to point transport industry – can be contacted on 1300 767 923 or at pointtopointinfo@transport.nsw.gov.au.

You can also speak with a NSW Business Connect Business Advisor who specialises in point to point transport. To discuss your submission with a Business Advisor, call 1300 661 539 or visit www.industry.nsw.gov.au/business-and-industry-in-nsw/businessconnect.