

# The Transporter



October 2011

## Electronic Tracking & Payments

DIER will be introducing an electronic tracking and payments system for **Student Only Fare Paying Services** during 2012.

The system will consist of an electronically activated card (bus pass) and an electronic In Vehicle Unit (IVU).

This will allow the collection and transfer of data about student passenger travel numbers, for both fare paying and free pass students. It will allow electronic billing and payment to operators based on the data collected and will also monitor and manage the performance standards specified in the New Service Contracts.

In November, DIER will be conducting workshops around the State for operators of **Student Only Fare Paying Services**. This will provide an opportunity for you to learn more about the electronic tracking and payments system and book an appointment for the installation of your IVU.

Naturally operators will have many questions about the new system and to help with this we are producing a fact sheet to address the frequently asked questions. This will be available as a handout at the workshops and also on the DIER website.

All operators of **Student Only Fare Paying Services** will receive a letter from DIER with complete details of the workshops. In the interim, here are the dates and times to help you with your planning to attend.

**Ulverstone** – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 11am – 1pm in the Montgomery Room (accessed from Woolworths' carpark, near lane from King Edward Street).

**Launceston** – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 7pm – 9pm at LINC Tasmania, Room 12, 8 High Street Centre.

**Hobart** – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 7pm – 9pm at Scots Church Hall, 25-29 Bathurst Street.

## Four Term School Year

Tasmanian Government schools will adopt a four-term year from 2013. Non-government schools are expected to follow suit.

The proposed term dates for 2013 will overlap, but not match interstate school holidays.

There will be no increase in the number of school days from the current three term school year. As a result, there will be no impact on your school bus contract payments.

## Over 195 Operating Days?

If you are the operator of a **Rural School Bus** and under your contract you are required to operate in excess of 195 days this year, your contract allows you to be paid for those extra days. Once the school year has finished and you can confirm the number of excess days, you should send us a request for payment.

## Capital Payment Rates

The Capital Payment Rates have been calculated for the quarter commencing October 2011. As usual, the rates will appear on your Statement of Payment. The rates are:

	Jul '11	Oct '11
Urban Fringe Student Only	\$1.29	\$1.29
Rural Fare Paying	\$1.29	\$1.29
Long Distance Student Only	\$1.29	\$1.29
Long Distance General Access	\$3.21	\$3.21
Urban Fringe General Access	\$3.21	\$3.21
Urban	\$0.94	\$0.94
Town	\$0.94	\$0.94

## Staff Update

September 2011 will be remembered as the month Wolf retired. As a longstanding team member, his fountain of knowledge will be missed, as will his sense of humour. With a new phase of life starting we wished Wolf all the very best for his retirement.

Mandy will shortly be returning from her temporary position with the Roads & Traffic Branch of DIER. At that stage, Jordyan will return to her role as Contracts Administration Officer.

Andrew Mullen, Manager .....6233 8207  
Mandy Brown.....6233 5187  
Jordyan Coombe .....6233 5351  
Lauren Stewart .....6233 5286

## Email Contact

Our generic email address is a quick and easy way for all operators to contact us. It's also the best email address to use when sending us your top-up claims [ptscontracts@dier.tas.gov.au](mailto:ptscontracts@dier.tas.gov.au)

## Back Payment - New Award

Effective 1 January 2010, the *Passenger Vehicle Transportation Award 2010* came into force. The Award has different entitlements for casual employees solely engaged for the purpose of transportation of school children to and from school compared with casual employees whose employment may include other duties, and employees other than casuals. In addition there are different effective dates for corporations and non-incorporated bodies.

The Transport Commission and the Tasmanian Bus Association have had extended discussions around the most suitable means to identify and appropriately compensate operators whose input costs have been affected by the new Award, from the date those costs were incurred.

We have now processed back payments for all holders of **Rural School Bus** contracts whose circumstances are clear cut, constant and unvarying. Where circumstances are more complex and operations are more mixed, we are still working through the details to determine the most appropriate outcome.

Once that process is complete, a back payment will be calculated and paid to eligible operators.

## Feedback

If you have any feedback for the contracts team, please feel free to contact us either by phone or email [ptscontracts@dier.tas.gov.au](mailto:ptscontracts@dier.tas.gov.au)

## Holiday Wishes

As this is our last newsletter for the year, we would like to take the opportunity to wish all operators a safe and enjoyable festive season.

### CONTACT DETAILS

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