

Booked service licences



Why are the changes needed?

Currently booked services (excluding taxis) are split into separate service classes of luxury hire car (LHC), restricted hire vehicle (RHV) and ride-source vehicle. Under the new framework, these arrangements will be simplified and streamlined into the one licence category.

The proposed changes represent reduced costs and regulation of the LHC and RHV classes, while ensuring an even playing field for ride-sourcing vehicles. In general terms, it means that the barriers to entering the market are lower which will enhance competition.

What are the changes?

All vehicles that are used to provide booked services (except taxis) will need a booked service licence. Booked service licences are limited to providing booked on-demand services, which can be provided anywhere in the State (no geographic restrictions). Vehicles with a booked service licence cannot be hailed and they cannot take advantage of taxi ranks.

Category	Impact
Existing LHC and RHV licences	<p>The new booked service licence will replace the existing LHC and RHV licences.</p> <p>All existing licences will be automatically transferred at the commencement of the new legislation. The administrative fee will be waived.</p> <p>Existing LHC and RHV operators may continue to display their licence plates if they wish, however there will be no booked service licence plate.</p> <p>For those who currently operate in the RHV and LHC markets, prescriptive vehicle and service requirements will be removed, as will the cost of the LHC licence.</p>

Category	Impact
Existing and active ride-source vehicles	All existing and active ride-source vehicles will be issued with a booked service licence. The administrative fee will be waived.
New vehicles entering the market after the commencement of legislation.	Required to apply for a booked service licence. Licences will be available on application and over the counter (no limit on availability) and for an administrative fee.

Currently, RHVs, LHCs and ride-source vehicles fall under different classes for MAIB premiums. It is proposed that these be reviewed by the Tasmanian Economic Regulator.

We want to hear from you

State Growth invites you to provide feedback on the proposed changes.

Submissions must be received by 10 November 2018 and made in writing by email to taxireview@stategrowth.tas.gov.au or mailed and addressed to:

Gary Swain
 Commissioner for Transport
 GPO Box 536
 Hobart TAS 7001

All submissions will be treated as public documents and will be placed on State Growth's website at www.transport.tas.gov.au, unless the submission is clearly specified as confidential (in full or part). Information provided will assist the Government in completing its reforms of the on-demand passenger transport industry.