

# Transporter



August 2019

## Spring is just around the corner

We hope you are keeping warm on those early morning bus runs with the cold August weather showing no sign of letting up. At least we know warmer times are just around the corner.

## Bus Services Review (formerly Project 2018) update

### General access services

Some 388 responses were received during consultation on the northern general access bus network servicing Launceston and surrounding towns.

This included 181 responses relating to the Launceston urban network and 207 on the outer-urban and regional network. Some 254 responses came from areas where proposed changes were anticipated to be of greatest concern to residents. The Department delivered fact sheets to residents' households in these towns.

Most of the responses on the Launceston urban, outer-urban and regional routes, operated by Manions' Coaches, Lee's Coaches, RD & FH Sainty, Tassielink Transit, and Calow's Coaches, were received via the Department's 'Have your say' web feedback form.

Once all feedback from the consultation has been analysed, a Final Consultation Response Report will be published on the Transport website. Following this, the finalised network will be communicated.

The six week extension of the consultation period has resulted in a review of overall project timelines. The northern network will be rolled out in January 2020 and the north western network in April 2020. Community consultation for the north-west will run through September and October.

### Contract Payment Model Calculator - School bus services

There is now a payment calculator for the new school bus contracts on our website. The payment calculator is provided in good faith and without prejudice. It has been tested and is provided to assist you with calculations for the funding offer. It can also model any changes you may be considering for example bus change or varying unloaded kilometres.

Where an issue is found or updates made, a log of these changes will be published with the updated model. A 'correct as at' date is also provided in the lower left corner of the model to provide assurance of the latest version.

The model was last updated on 27 May 2019 due to the following changes:

- The current date will automatically be populated at the top of the 'Service Details' section. Note: If a point in time calculation is required, please save as a PDF or other static document type.
- The model was not correctly calculating the Variable Running Allowance per Km rate where the required bus size = 'Small' and 'Fuel Step 1' was selected.
- The model was not correctly calculating the 'Total Other Annual Capital Allowances' where multiple buses were entered.
- A new 'Other Vehicle Operating Cost Step' drop down has been included. This now allows for additional per kilometre payment (Step 1) to be calculated only on Other Vehicle Operating Costs and separate from the 'Fuel Step'. This additional allowance can only be applied where the Crown is satisfied the buses are operating on significant sections of gravel, winding or steep roads which materially increase the wear and tear on the bus.
- The 'Maximum Capital Rates – School' tab now contains transition rates for eligible Medium, Large and Extra Large buses that allows payments for eligible buses transitioned onto the contract at 21 and 22 years of age in 2020. NOTE: The calculator uses the current year (i.e. 2019) to calculate the age of buses.
- The model was not correctly calculating the Variable Running Allowance for a Small Bus contract where the Step 1 was selected.

Check out the calculator and other new contract information at, [www.transport.tas.gov.au/busreview/new\\_contract\\_information](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/busreview/new_contract_information)

## Upcoming Request for Tender for general access bus service

A Request for Tender (RFT) for the provision of a regular passenger transport service between Sheffield and Devonport (via Railton and Latrobe) will be released by the Department in late August/early September.

The new service will commence from 19 January 2020 in line with the roll out of new contracts under the Bus Service Review. The initial contract term will be five years with an option to extend for a further five years.

State Growth will conduct an open tender process to achieve value for money, open and effective competition, compliance with ethical standards, and to enhance opportunities for local business, in keeping with the Government's Procurement Principles.

If you are interested in tendering for the provision of this service, please register at the Tasmanian Government Tenders website [www.tenders.tas.gov.au](http://www.tenders.tas.gov.au).

Information on preparing a tender is available on the Tasmanian Government's Purchasing website at [www.purchasing.tas.gov.au/winning-government-business](http://www.purchasing.tas.gov.au/winning-government-business).

We understand you may want more information, however, please hold your questions until after the RFT is released as many questions may be answered in the tender documents. We are not able to provide any further information about the tender until the release date.

## Registry of Ancillary Certificates to drive Public Passenger Vehicles

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles is improving the way driver ancillary certificate details are made available to accredited passenger transport operators.

It is a condition of passenger transport operator accreditation that accredited operators ensure their drivers are appropriately licensed and certified to drive their vehicles, and continue to remain so while driving public passenger

vehicles. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles facilitates this requirement by publishing a register of current ancillary certificates on the Transport Tasmania website for operators to undertake periodic checks.

A new online tool is now available that allows ancillary certificates to be checked by entering the driver licence number and surname of the licence holder. The online tool replaces the publication of the register. The details entered online must exactly match the details on the driver licence. A successful search will provide the ancillary certificate type, ancillary certificate expiry date and driver licence expiry date of the licence searched.

Information available through this page is updated in real time; a significant improvement over the previous publishing schedule of the register.

The new ancillary certificate verification online tool is available online at [https://ptinfo.transport.tas.gov.au/ancillary\\_check.aspx](https://ptinfo.transport.tas.gov.au/ancillary_check.aspx)

## Appropriate systems for a bus service

An accredited operator of a bus service must have systems (or procedures) that meet the Accreditation Standards. The Accreditation Standards set out the minimum safety specifications for a passenger transport service.

When the accreditation systems are working and they meet the Accreditation Standards:

- the accredited operator will be aware of important dates such as when registrations and inspections are due
- buses will be registered and roadworthy
- drivers will be appropriately licensed and certified
- passengers and drivers will be safe.

When the accreditation systems are not working:

- buses become unregistered, are not presented for inspection on time, and/or may become unroadworthy
- drivers may not be appropriately licensed and certified
- the bus service may become unsafe.

There is information at [www.transport.tas.gov.au/passenger/operators](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/passenger/operators) to help operators build accreditation systems that meet the Accreditation Standards. This information includes:

- the *Operator Accreditation Manual* which sets out the Accreditation Standards
- the *Operator Accreditation Manual (Forms)* which sets out the minimum information that you need to collect for your systems to meet the Accreditation Standards.

Accredited operators may choose to collect and store other information that is not included on the forms and systems. Electronic alternatives can be used instead of paper based forms. Records (including information on the forms) used for the accreditation must be kept for at least three years, and be available to an auditor or the Commission.

It is very important for operators to review their accreditation systems regularly to make sure they work. If a bus becomes unregistered or unroadworthy, the cause needs to be found. When this is found, the operator needs to fix the accreditation systems so it doesn't happen again.

The accreditation systems is tested by an auditor at regular, scheduled intervals. The audit report provides information that helps the Commission to determine if the accreditation systems meet the Accreditation Standards. If the accreditation systems do not meet the standards, the Commission will work with the operator to improve the systems in various ways which may include education, monitoring, restrictions or sanctions.

## Notification reminder

A reminder that your contract requires you to provide the Delegate with immediate notification of any event arising from the performance of the service that involves the police. This immediate notification must be followed by a written report by the close of business on the next business day.

## Payment enquiries

Your monthly Recipient Created Tax Invoice (RCTI) is now sent to you from the Department's Finance branch. Please do not reply to this email as the Finance team member who sends through your RCTI may be unable to answer your Contract payment-related queries. For the fastest response, please continue to direct all payment related queries to the Passenger Transport Contracts team via email [ptscontracts@stategrowth.tas.gov.au](mailto:ptscontracts@stategrowth.tas.gov.au) or by telephone (03) 6166 3343.

## Bus Cost Model Index (BCMI)

The BCMI has been calculated for August 2019 and is 129.7.

## Capital rates

The Capital Payment rates have been calculated for the quarter commencing July 2019. There have been decreases to the rates for all contract types, owing predominantly to a decrease in interest rates. Please consider these rates before requesting bus changes on your contract. For all fare-paying operators, the rates applicable to your monthly contract payment can be found on your Statement of Payment.

Due to an error in the initial calculation, there has also been a recalculation of the January/April 2019 capital rates. As seen below, these changes are relatively minor, but information will be circulated to all affected operators in the coming weeks.

<b>Contract Type</b>	<b>January/April 2019 (applied)</b>	<b>January/April 2019 (revised)</b>	<b>July 2019</b>
Urban Fringe Student Only	\$1.18	\$1.19	\$0.99
Rural Fare Paying	\$1.18	\$1.19	\$0.99
Long Distance Student Only	\$1.18	\$1.19	\$0.99
Long Distance General Access	\$3.03	\$3.03	\$2.89
Urban Fringe General Access	\$3.03	\$3.03	\$2.89
Urban	\$0.92	\$0.92	\$0.76
Town	\$0.92	\$0.92	\$0.76

## Contacting Passenger Transport

For all enquiries or notifications relating to your current contracts (i.e. a service you currently provide) contact Passenger Transport via email [ptscontracts@stategrowth.tas.gov.au](mailto:ptscontracts@stategrowth.tas.gov.au) or phone 03 6166 3343.