



Bulletin 02/03

Attention: Industry Members
Re: Taxi Industry Forum

On Wednesday 26 February, representatives from the Taxi Council attended the Minister's Forum at CityWest.

Members who also attended this forum were shocked at the effect that a buyback had in the Northern Territory and voiced the opinion that they did not want West Australia to follow this path.

The buyback of taxi plates in the Northern Territory led to:-

- Taxi driver incomes falling by 30-50%. Some drivers are earning less than \$4 per hour
- Increased fares and a poorer quality of taxi service to the public
- Unfair competition with minibuses plying for hire on ranks and charging as little as \$2 per passenger
- An increased number of taxis
- Many taxi operators going broke
- No industry investment or innovation

The NT experience was clearly a failure. The public and the taxi drivers and operators are suffering.

At the forum, the Government advised that no decision had been made as to whether they will buyback plates and that the forum was the "first step" in their consultations. They further advised that they would collate the feedback from the forum and send everyone a summary and a survey.

The Taxi Council Executive is working very hard behind the scenes to gather information and look after your interests. When the Council receives the forum summary of issues, we will call a meeting to ascertain your view and then put your position to Government.

Please remember that the taxi industry in Perth is performing very well and delivery a service second to none. Your customer and the community are very happy with your service. Thank you.

Kevin Foley
Chairman

Joanna Ammon
Chief Executive Officer