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Minutes of the COVID 19 CPVV Industry Update Meeting

Date: 1 July 2020

Time: 02:00pm – 02:40pm

Location: Microsoft Teams Video Conference

Attendees

Al Martin (CPVV), Siena Rossi (CPVV), Greg Kazuro (CPVV), Ian Matthews (CPVV), Val McFarlane (CPVV), Michelle Thomas (CPVV), Crown Cabs, Rajesh Gupta, Anita Jenson, Alice Nguyen, Brendan O'Sullivan, Cauley Beetham, Greg Hardeman, Guy Ragen, Isaac (Ola), Peter Valentine, Maria Silos, John Lobwein, Bruce Mossig, Stephen Armstrong, Toni Peters, Darryl Marks, Wolf Aron.

Discussion

- Al Martin (AM) welcomed and displayed presentation for discussion.
- AM made the following comments:

Note: all comments made are true and correct as at this point in time.

- Confirmed the COVID 19 CPVV Industry Update meeting's frequency has changed to fortnightly however if there are any significant changes additional meetings will be added.
- Advised that all sources and references for information/contact on COVID 19 advice remain the same.
- Advised the FAQs are scheduled to be updated by COB 2 July 2020.
- Advised a regulatory amendment was made on 30 June 2020 in which expiry date for the small BSP exemption was removed.
- Shared MPTP statistics for week 26 2020:
 - 51% lower compared to the same weeks of 2019, while it has decreased 3% compared to last week.
 - Conventional trips have a 47% decrease compared to the same week of 2019 and decreased 2% compared to last week.
 - MPTP wheelchair trips have decreased 61% compared to the same week of 2019 and decreased 2% compared to last week.
- Advised there is no change to restrictions for CPVs in line with the Governments recent announcement on Stage 3 Stay at Home restrictions. Noting drivers with trips in the restricted postcodes are able to continue working however should continue to do their own risk assessment if passengers are showing any symptoms and ensure their safety.
- No driver, regardless of their residential address, should work if they are feeling unwell or have any COVID-19 symptoms.
- Reminded BSPs that drivers do not need to validate the reason for passengers travelling or if they are from the same household.
- Reiterated the importance of cleaning practices in vehicles and reminded BSPs to follow the guidelines available on the CPVV website.
- Advised the Premier has announced the establishment of an inquiry into the operation of the hotel quarantine program.
- Advised the Premier commenced mandatory testing for all returned travellers in hotel quarantine on 28 June 2020. CPVV's understanding is that it involves two tests, the first on day 3 and the second on day 11, with anyone who refuses the test on day 11 required extend their quarantine period.

- Reinforced the importance of building community confidence and acknowledged the positive work that the industry is doing. Further recommended BSP messaging should continue to align with government messaging about building community confidence.

Questions from industry:

1. Attendee asked if those residing in the locked down postcodes announced by the Premier are allowed to leave their homes, transported by CPVs.
 - CPVV reply – AM advised the enforcement of the lockdown is not the role of CPVV or the CPV industry. The restricted postcodes are able to leave the house for specific purposes advised by the Premier/CHO and outlined on the DHHS website. Reiterated there is no onus on drivers to confirm the reason for passengers' travel or to confirm if passengers are all from the same household. Reminded drivers and vehicle owners to treat everyone as potentially infectious and ensure the vehicles are cleaned after every trip.
2. BSP requested support for reporting BSP trip data to CPVV.
 - CPVV reply – AM advised the Data Team will contact the BSP directly.
3. BSP asked if the list of postcodes will be published on the CPVV website.
 - CPVV reply – AM advised DHHS has published this information on its website and the link is available on the CPVV COVID19 FAQs webpage.
4. BSP asked AM to expand on the recent regulatory amendment for the small BSP exemption.
 - CPVV reply – AM advised a change to the regulations around who needs to register as a booking service provider (BSP) with Commercial Passenger Vehicles Victoria (CPVV) has been made. A new rule was due to come into force today (1 July 2020), requiring anyone who had only one or two commercial passenger vehicles registered in their name, and only accepted bookings for those vehicles, to register as a booking service provider. However, the expiry date on the exemption has now been removed. This means commercial passenger vehicle service providers who take bookings for two or fewer vehicles do not have to register as BSPs.

Additional information not discussed during the COVID 19 CPVV Industry Update Meeting:

- Even if you do not have to register as a BSP, you are still required by law to comply with the safety duties outlined in the [Code of Practice](#).
 - For more information on BSP registration, including examples of how the BSP rules apply to different kinds of companies see [What is a booking service provider?](#).
 - <https://cpv.vic.gov.au/about-us/news/taxis/changes-to-bsp-registration-criteria>
5. BSP asked for clarification on mandatory testing of quarantined passengers leaving hotels as BSP was under the impression that all passengers who were released from quarantine should have tested negative to COVID19.
 - AM advised during the early weeks of quarantine, passengers were transported by bus to hotels and subjected to a mandatory 14 day quarantine period. At the end of the period, if there had been no change in their health and they displayed no symptoms during the 14 days, they were released. When they were released, they were medically screened to confirm they displaying an COVID-19 symptoms, and they received a certificate to say they have fulfilled their period of quarantine. The certificate was a legal document and only reflected that they had undertaken the period of quarantine. AM advised there was no testing during the first 6-8 weeks. AM advised any additional details on the arrangement will need to be provided by DJPR or DHHS. CPVV can

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provide contact details if required. AM further advised CPVV has maintained consistent communication in advising industry regarding the description of this activity.

6. Attendee asked if there is anything else that drivers or BSPs can do to assist with reducing the spread of the virus and if AM is able to share if there are any areas of the industry that need further assistance or specific attention.
 - AM advised to continue to follow the advice of the public health officials and to rigidly adhere to cleaning and hygiene regimes. Advised CPVV continues to collect and analyse industry data to best assess and monitor industry developments and recommend appropriate solutions to provide support to the industry. IM encouraged BSPs to actively seek feedback from their drivers to help inform them on what is actually happening operationally as this may help BSPs tailor their messaging on what needs to be targeted or clarified for their drivers.
7. BSP asked if there have been any changes to masks.
 - AM advised there have been no changes regarding the CHO's advice for people to wear a face mask. DHHS' position remains the same however those individuals who elect to wear a face mask should be reminded to clean or dispose of the face masks correctly so they don't become a contamination issue.
 - IM advised CPVV has issued letters to local councils across Victoria seeking information around the arrangements they have in place for pick up and drop off areas to ensure appropriate passenger behaviour and sanitisation practices are being reinforced. If BSPs have feedback on particular councils, to advise CPVV so we can engage with the council to ensure this feedback is received. CPVV is also engaging with Melbourne Airport to ensure correct sanitisation procedures and support for industry.
 - Any further queries or feedback to be directed to Safety Mailbox.
 - AM advised if there are any significant changes they will be communicated via email, social media or text message.
 - Feedback on the industry brief or suggestions on how to improve the industry brief are welcome at any time.
 - Meeting closed.