**Industry on board with new laws**

Friday 9 February 2018

Victoria’s new taxi and hire car laws are being embraced by industry with UberBLACK, UberX and Taxify now accredited with the Taxi Services Commission to manage bookings for commercial passenger vehicles.

Other major international companies are also expressing interest in entering the Victorian market.

Since low cost commercial passenger vehicle licences became available on 9 October 2017, 20,545 additional hire car licences have been issued by the Taxi Services Commission. The taxi industry has also adopted the changes with 2,835 additional taxi licences (including 129 Wheelchair Accessible Taxis) being issued.

“I am pleased to see the commercial passenger vehicle industry working so well with the new laws and that there are more licensed vehicles, including Wheelchair Accessible Taxis, on the road,” said Taxi Services Commission Chairperson hief Executive Officerome for consumers” e market, we are also seeing a roadYehudi Blacher.

“With more service providers entering the market we are also seeing increased choice and competition, which is a great outcome for consumers,” added Mrhief Executive Officerome for consumers” e market, we are also seeing a road Blacher.

The Victorian Government reforms to the commercial passenger vehicle industry are providing safer services for passengers, opening up the market to new providers and giving Victorians more transport choices.

The new legislation creates a level playing field for all operators, with the same obligations and regulations, and consistent safety standards for all hire cars and taxis.

All commercial passenger vehicle drivers are required to be accredited by the Taxi Services Commission and vehicles licensed as a taxi or hire car.

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**Additional information:**

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| **Licence type** | **No. of licences at 30/09/17** | **No. of licences at 31/01/18** | **Per cent change since reforms began on 9/10/17** | **No. change since reforms**  **began on 9/10/17** |
| Conventional | 5,000 | 7,706 | 54% | 2,706 |
| Wheelchair Accessible Taxi | 636 | 765 | 20% | 129 |
| Total | 5,636 | 8,471 | 50% | 2,835 |

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| Hire car | 2,824 | 23,369 | 728% | 20,545 |