

Deputy Premier
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Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Planning



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Mr Endre Kovacs
Chairperson
Tasmanian Taxi Plate Owners Group
By email: secretary@tlotas.com.au

25 SEP 2023

Dear Mr Kovacs

Thank you for your emails in which you restate the position of investors in Tasmanian perpetual taxi licences.

I refer to my previous correspondence with you where I advised the Tasmanian Government does not purchase or resume taxi licences.

As I have previously advised, Tasmanian taxi licences have never been intended as an instrument for financial growth or the provision of investment returns. The primary objective of the regulatory regime for public passenger vehicles is to establish and maintain a transport system that prioritises the safety and convenience of consumers.

The Tasmanian Government has implemented comprehensive on-demand transport reforms that foster competition and create an equal playing field for both the taxi industry and ride-source providers while also enabling customer choice. The Government has also continued to support the taxi industry via a range of measures which, in their totality, represent significant investment in the ongoing viability of the industry.

This support included a moratorium on the annual release of new licences statewide until 2024 to address industry concerns, which subsequently has been welcomed by the taxi industry.

While I understand your desire to meet and discuss the matter further, there are no plans to establish a taxpayer funded compensation scheme in response to changing market demand for licences or the entry of ride-source platforms in Tasmania.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Ferguson".

Michael Ferguson MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport