Future Licensing Review Options

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) invites your feedback on options for how taxi services in Queensland can be regulated in the future to achieve a better level of service, more innovative services and provide greater access for passengers.

Purpose of the Future Licensing Review

The Future Licensing Review (the Review) is reviewing the taxi licensing framework to ensure it supports the taxi industry's ability to compete effectively within the personalised transport industry. The Review was a key recommendation in *Queensland's Personalised Transport Horizon – Stage Three: Monitoring and Evaluation Report*.

The Review has analysed key issues around market entry restrictions for services, the administration of taxi service licences and accessibility of services for people with disability.

Future taxi licensing framework

The Review has developed the following five options across the key areas of licence caps, taxi service areas and flexible fleet management.

Proposed options

Table 1 Future licensing options

Option A – Issuing new licences under current framework	• Preserve the current framework:
	  ○ cap licences in each taxi service area (TSA)
	  ○ TMR determines number of licences to issue periodically
	  ○ new licences issued by public tender – 5 year maximum duration
	• Make peak demand arrangements permanent

Option B1 – Modest changes	• Cap licences in each TSA • TMR determines appropriate number of licences periodically • New licences issued by public tender – 10 year maximum duration • Merge some TSAs in SEQ, central Qld and north Qld • New peak demand licence
Option B2 – Fixed cost for new licences	• Cap licences in each TSA • TMR determines appropriate number of licences periodically • TMR issues new licences at set price – for example $10-15K per year - 10 year maximum duration • Merge some TSAs in SEQ, central Qld and north Qld • Funds from sale of new licences used to support licence owners of cancelled surplus licences • New peak demand licence
Option C – More significant changes	• No cap on supply of Wheelchair Accessible Taxi (WAT) licences which are issued on demand for an administrative fee • Conventional taxi licences remain capped with new licences issued by public tender for a 10-year max. duration • TMR determines appropriate number of conventional licences periodically • Merge some TSAs in SEQ, central Qld and north Qld • Remove substitute taxis and peak demand arrangements
Option D – Remove constraints on taxi supply	• Remove restrictions on supply of all licences, with annual licences issued on demand for an administrative fee • Remove operating area restrictions / no TSAs • Remove substitute taxis and peak demand arrangements

We want to know

We want to know what you think of each option and what impact each option will have on the taxi industry and passengers.

You can also let us know any other feedback, including how the options will impact existing taxi licence values.

Have your say

Taxi industry representatives are invited to have their say via the TMR website at www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/future-licensing-review.

Before you have your say, you can view a presentation outlining the background of the Review, key findings, the proposed options and their identified impacts. You can provide your feedback by completing the survey online.

Consultation is open until 13 September 2024.

Further information

More information about Queensland's personalised transport industry is available at www.tmr.qld.gov.au.