

Objective Ref: CSD20/03918

20 October 2020

Ms Abigail Boyd, MLC Chair - Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Transport and Customer Service Parliament House 6 Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Email: portfoliocommittee6@parliament.nsw.gov.au

RE: D20/48225 – INQUIRY INTO THE OPERATION OF THE POINT TO POINT TRANSPORT ACT 2016

Dear Ms Boyd

Thank you for your correspondence following evidence provided by Transport for NSW at the recent inquiry into the operation of the *Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016.*

I appreciate the chance to clarify the role of the NSW Taxi Council as part of the Taxi and Hire Vehicle Industry Assistance Panel (the Panel).

Under the *Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016* (clause 7 of schedule 3), the Panel is comprises:

- the Chief Executive of the NSW Taxi Council or the Chief Executive's nominee, and
- the Secretary of the Department of Transport, or the Secretary's delegate, and
- the Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, or the Secretary's delegate, and
- the Secretary of The Treasury, or the Secretary's delegate.

On commencement of the Panel, the then CEO of the NSW Taxi Council was a member of the Panel. The Panel first met on 1 July 2016.

During the period in which the Additional Assistance Payment Scheme (AAPS) was being considered by the Panel, the NSW Taxi Council was represented on the Panel by the Deputy CEO of the NSW Taxi Council.

The Deputy CEO of the NSW Taxi Council was nominated as the representative of the CEO in a letter to the Panel dated 25 July 2017.

Transport for NSW

18 Lee Street, Chippendale NSW 2008 | PO Box K659, Haymarket NSW 1240

T 02 8202 2200 | F 02 8202 2209 | W transport.nsw.gov.au | ABN 18 804 239 602

The CEO of the Taxi Council could seek to nominate another person as their representative on the Panel at any time.

As set out in clause 9 of schedule 3 of the *Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016*, the nominee of the Chief Executive of the NSW Taxi Council is entitled to be present at, and participate in, meetings of the Panel but, is not entitled to vote at a meeting.

The NSW Taxi Council was actively and energetically represented on the Panel and the views and concerns of the NSW Taxi Council were, at all times, carefully considered by the Panel.

All members of the Panel were required to sign a Confidentiality Deed Poll.

The Confidentiality Deed Poll was required due to the fact that, in the course of their functions, panel members had access to confidential and sensitive information about the AAPS as well as confidential information of applicants to the scheme.

Under the terms of that Confidentiality Deed Poll a member of the Panel can disclose confidential information where they have the written consent of the Chair of the Panel.

Any such approved disclosure must be related to the member's functions on the Panel and the member must take all necessary precautions to prevent unauthorised access to or copying of confidential information.

If you have any further questions, Director Media, Communications and Government, would be pleased to take your call been of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Dr Joost de Kock Deputy Secretary Customer Strategy and Technology Transport for NSW