

Australian Capital Territory

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Maximum Fares for Taxi Services Determination 2019 (No 2)

Disallowable instrument DI2019–233

made under the

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001, section 60 (Power to determine taxi fares)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Section 60 (1) of the *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001* provides that the Minister may, in writing, determine the taxi fares and ways of calculating fares, relating to hiring or using a taxi. A determination under section 60(1) is a disallowable instrument.

Increases to the maximum regulated fares in the ACT have traditionally used the Taxi Cost Composite Index (TCCI), developed by the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission in 2004. Industry stakeholders and other jurisdictions have noted weaknesses in utilising the TCCI based on its current weightings and have moved away from using it as a basis for increases to maximum regulated fares.

The fare increases in this instrument have been based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the ACT. The increase in maximum regulated fares in this instrument are based on two CPI increases: 2017-18: 2.3% and 2018-19: 2.5%, for a total increase of 4.8%. This is considered appropriate given the time period since fares were last increased. Column 3 of schedule 1 to the instrument lists the maximum fare payable prior to the instrument's commencement and Column 4 at commencement of the instrument.

To provide better transparency of the lift fee amount, this instrument specifies the lift fee for wheelchair-accessible taxis (WATs). The lift fee was introduced in 2003. Unlike the other fares and charges, the lift fee is charged directly to the ACT Government and must not be charged to the passenger.

This determination revokes the current fare determination: *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Maximum Fares for Taxi Services Determination 2017 (No 1) DI2017-247*.

It also revokes the *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Maximum Fares for Taxi Services Determination 2019* DI2019-222 which has not yet commenced. This instrument contained an erroneous reference to 1 October 2019 in column 4, schedule 1 to the previous determination. This instrument replaces that reference with 1 November 2019 in accordance with the instrument's commencement date.

This determination will commence on 1 November 2019 and will remain in force until it is amended or revoked.