

Use of Hourly-hired Taxis for Duty Journeys

Purpose

At the meeting of the Subcommittee on Road Traffic (Temporary Reduction of New Territories Taxi Fares) Regulation 2003 and Road Traffic (Temporary Reduction of New Territories Taxi Fares) (No.2) Regulation 2003 held on 7 July 2003, the Administration undertook to provide supplementary information on the number of bookings made by Government departments for hourly-hired taxis under the Use of Hourly-hired Taxis for Duty Journeys Scheme (“the Scheme”) during April-June 2003. This note provides the relevant information.

The Scheme

2. The Scheme was launched in February 2003 and coordinated by Government Logistics Department (which incorporates the former Government Land Transport Agency). It provides an alternative mode of commercial transport to supplement the existing transport provision for duty travel of public officers of Government bureaux/departments having regard to operational efficiency and cost effectiveness. The Scheme is welcomed and supported by the taxi trade.

Usage during April-June 2003

3. According to Government Logistics Department, a total of 237 bookings of taxis were made by various Government bureaux/departments under the Scheme during April-June 2003. In general, the duration of hiring per booking was about 2 to 3 hours. The number of bookings per month during the relevant period is given below:

<u>Month</u>	<u>No. of bookings</u>
April 2003	92
May 2003	95
June 2003	50

4. Transport Department will continue to render supports to promote the Scheme among Government bureaux/departments.