ADAM GILES
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

COUNTRY LIBERALS PUT MORE TAXIS ON THE ROAD

4 December, 2012

Catching a taxi home will be made easier with more cabs to be allowed to operate on Territory roads.

Transport Minister Adam Giles has responded to public calls for more cabs by announcing an increase of taxi licences available to the taxi industry.

“This initiative will provide an additional 28 taxis in Darwin and an extra seven taxis for Alice Springs,” Mr Giles said.

The introduction of additional taxis licences will be staggered with ten licences to be made available immediately to accommodate extra demand around Christmas. Those ten licences will be the conversion of 10 current peak period licences to full taxi licences.

A taxi ballot will be held early next year for a further 20 taxi licences coming on line.

In 2003 an administrative cap was placed on taxi licence numbers which has restricted the capacity of the market to respond to increasing demand.

Currently there is a cap of 143 licences for Darwin and 36 licences for Alice Springs.

“By increasing the cap, taxi operators in Alice Springs and Darwin will now be able to obtain new licences from Government,” Mr Giles said.

“Provision of extra licences will improve service levels to the public and allow the market to respond to increasing demand and changing patterns of usage.”

Mr Giles said the initiative will also link with the Territory Government’s decision to support disable Territorians with subsidy increases for wheelchair taxi users and for providing further reasons that there is no excuse to drink and drive.

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