

Minutes Advisory Committee on SPSV's

Thursday 30th March 2023 10.30am

Present:

Chairperson	Mr. Cornelius O'Donohue
Representing SPSV and driver interests	Mr. John Murphy
Special interest or expertise	Mr. James O'Brien
Representing the interests of business	Ms. Ann Campbell
Representing the interests of Local Authorities	Mr. Brendan O'Brien
Special interest or expertise	Mr. Paul Gregan, Ms. Fiona Brady
Representing the interests of older persons	Ms. Mai Quaid

Apologies:

An Garda Síochána	Superintendent Tom Murphy
Representing the interests of persons with disabilities	Ms. Joan Carthy
Representing the interests of consumers	Mr. James Cawley
Representing SPSV and driver interests	Mr. Francis Doheny, Shajedul Chowdhury
Representing the interests of tourism	Mr. Paul Keeley
Representing the interests of consumers	Ms. Michelle Reid
Special interest or expertise	Mr. Noel Ebbs
Representing the interests of Local Authorities	Mr. Brendan O'Brien

NTA Staff in Attendance:

Ms. Jackie Mullen (Secretary), Ms. Roisin Cullinan (Head of Licensing Regulation), Ms. Wendy Thompson (Director of Transport Regulation)

1. Minutes and Matters arising

The minutes of the February meeting were approved with the following amendment:

The Committee raised a query in relation to the DAA overall taxi operation, whereby some taxis dropping off a fare at the airport have to leave without a fare, requesting that it be examined by the Minister. Also requested was the Ministers engagement with vehicle manufacturers to enhance supply of EV WAVs. New drivers wishing to purchase their own vehicle are obliged to purchase a WAV, in the vast majority of cases this results in the purchase of a diesel vehicle.

The Chair informed the Committee that following a query to the Department of Transport regarding access to bus lanes by limousines and hackneys, the Department confirmed that there is no plan to change the position at present and only taxis are permitted access to bus lanes.

2. NTA update

The monthly NTA update was previously circulated. Roisin Cullinan said she would respond in writing to any queries received. The secretary will circulate the written responses to all members.

In relation to queries on WAV and eSPSV grants and vehicle availability, the NTA suggested that it would give a presentation at the next meeting on vehicle types and availability in the marketplace.

NTA officials leave

3. Explore the creation of a driver guide course for SPSV drivers

There was a preliminary discussion in relation to an online course/driver guide type qualification for drivers in addition to the National Tour Guide Training Programme QQI Level 6. Paul Gregan agreed to put some material together on this for the Committee.

4. Data Capture/Technology

The Committee agreed that data on when and where drivers are working (not information on the individual or the vehicle) would be useful to inform service provision. No personal data would be collected. All data would be anonymised. The Committee is to look at examples of what had been done in other jurisdictions.

5. AOB

There were no matters raised.

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on Thursday 27th April at 10.30 in the NTA office.

Signed:

Dated: