

TAXI SERVICES – SUNDAY OPERATION

1237. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Transport

- (1) Can the Minister advise why Sunday is designated a peak operating time for taxi services?
- (2) Is there a reduction in demand for taxis on a Sunday during winter?
- (3) If yes to (2), how significant is the reduction for services?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) The Peak Period is defined as Friday 5pm to Saturday 6am, and Saturday 5pm to Sunday 6am. All taxis are required to operate during this period of highest demand. The early hours of Sunday morning are designated a Peak Period operating time to accommodate passengers returning home after a Saturday night out.

The Off-Peak Period is defined as all times outside of the Peak Period.

- (2) Standard reporting on taxi industry performance is not undertaken on a day-to-day or day-specific basis. Taxi industry performance and demand is monitored in the following frames: the Peak Period; and, Off-Peak Period. It is further aggregated and reported on a monthly and quarterly basis ie. January to March (Quarter 1); April to June (Quarter 2); July to September (Quarter 3); and, October to December (Quarter 4).

Taxi demand is cyclical, with demand generally lowest in Quarter 1 of any year. Demand then increases with each quarter to peak in Quarter 4.

Therefore, while Off-Peak Period taxi demand in Quarter 3 (July to September) is reduced in comparison to Quarter 4 demand, it is significantly higher than demand experienced in Quarter 1 and higher than demand in Quarter 2.

- (3) Nil.