

UBER SMART PHONE APP

**778. Hon KEN TRAVERS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Transport:**

- (1) How many drivers using the ridesharing smart phone app Uber have been charged by the Department of Transport?
- (2) For each driver —
  - (a) what offence has been committed; and
  - (b) under which section of the act has the driver been charged?
- (3) Why have more drivers not been charged?

**Hon JIM CHOWN replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Twenty-nine drivers have been charged.
- (2) (a)–(b) Nineteen drivers have been charged for “failing to comply with lawful direction of an authorised officer”, which carries a maximum penalty of \$1 000, in accordance with section 32(8)(a) of the Taxi Act 1994. Ten drivers have been charged with a range of offences related to the operation of a vehicle as a taxi, including: operating a vehicle as a taxi within a control area without using taxi plates, carrying a maximum penalty of \$5 000 under section 15(1)(a) of the Taxi Act 1994; operating a vehicle as a taxi that did not have a camera surveillance unit, carrying a maximum penalty of \$1 000 under regulation 13B(1)(a) of the Taxi Regulations 1995; and allowing the operation of a vehicle as a taxi within a control area without using taxi plates, carrying a maximum penalty of \$5 000 under section 15(1)(a) of the Taxi Act 1994.
- (3) Investigations are ongoing.