

TAXI INDUSTRY REVIEW

**199. Hon NORM KELLY to the Minister for Transport:**

- (1) What recommendations resulted from the national competition policy review of the taxi industry in relation to the Taxi Industry Board?
- (2) Has the Taxi Industry Board been abolished?
- (3) If so, what is the ongoing relevance of sections 8 to 14 in the current Taxi Act?
- (4) Has the industry completed the establishment of its own representative body?

**Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) One of the significant outcomes of the national competition policy review of the taxi industry that was conducted last year was to have clearly defined roles for government and industry. As a result, the role of government will now be as a policy leader. It will set standards for the taxi industry to meet the needs of its customers.

The national competition policy review also established that the industry was confused about whether the Taxi Industry Board was an industry body or a government body. Within the taxi industry, the Taxi Industry Board was generally regarded as a government body, and within government it was seen as an industry body.

The existence of the Taxi Industry Board is prescribed within the Taxi Act. However, most industries have their own representative body and therefore a similar approach was agreed to for the taxi industry. The major taxi industry stakeholders indicated that they did not support the continuation of the Taxi Industry Board.

- (2) The terms of Taxi Industry Board members' appointments expired on 30 June 2000. Since that time, the Taxi Industry Board has ceased active participation in the industry.
- (3) I am seeking advice on the matter. However, it is my intention to amend the Taxi Act in due course to remove reference to the Taxi Industry Board.
- (4) Key groups within the taxi industry have supported the Taxi Council of Western Australia as the peak industry representative body for the taxi industry. The council has been operating in this role since 1 July 2000.