

TAXIS — TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE AND HARDSHIP PAYMENTS

1162. Hon AMBER-JADE SANDERSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the transitional assistance payments and the hardship payments being offered to taxi plate owners.

- (1) Have the transitional payments commenced; and, if not, when will they start?
- (2) If yes to (1) —
 - (a) how much has been paid; and
 - (b) to how many owners?
- (3) Have the hardship payments commenced; and, if not, when will they start?
- (4) If yes to (3) —
 - (a) how many applications has the government received;
 - (b) how much has been paid; and
 - (c) to how many applicants?
- (5) What criteria are set for receiving the hardship payments?

Hon JIM CHOWN replied:

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

- (1) Payments of the transition adjustment assistance grant will commence once gazettal of the regulations has occurred.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The hardship fund application period commenced on 8 September 2016.
- (4)
 - (a) To date, 11 hardship fund applications have been received.
 - (b) Nil. The 11 applications received are in the assessment phase of the application process.
 - (c) Nil.
- (5) A person will be eligible to apply for hardship funds provided they held an ownership interest in a Perth metropolitan taxi plate between 1 July 2014 and 18 December 2015 and, as a direct result of industry disruptions and reforms, are experiencing both a deficiency in income that does not allow provision for either themselves or their immediate family the necessities of food, shelter, clothing, medical expenses, education for children and other basic requirements, and an inability to liquidate assets in order to either meet the cost of those necessities or pay outstanding debts as and when they fall due.