

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Giles to Minister for Transport.

Taxi Industry, Licence Registrations

In relation to registration of drivers in the taxi industry:

1. For the six month periods ending 30 June 2010, 31 December 2010 and 30 June 2011, how many taxi drivers have been given their taxi licences without holding an NT drivers license for a minimum period of 2 years.
2. For the six month periods ending 30 June 2010, 31 December 2010 and 30 June 2011, how many taxi drivers in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Darwin regions –
 - (a) have been issued a temporary taxi licence; and
 - (b) have subsequently been re-issued with temporary licences.
3. What plans are in place to ensure these temporary license holders meet the appropriate licensing requirements.

Answer

1. For reasons of public safety, one of the requirements to obtain a Commercial Passenger Vehicle Identity (CPVID) card to drive a taxi is that a person must have held an NT open minimum class "C" driver licence or interstate equivalent for two years.

An exemption provision to this requirement is available on a case by case basis (usually for overseas licence holders taking up residency in the Northern Territory) whereby the person may be issued an interim taxi CPVID card.

To qualify for the exemption they would have to satisfy the required training requirements with a condition of being restricted to driving for a nominated operator until they have completed the two years driving experience. The nominated operator is required to submit written confirmation agreeing to support the person during the period.

The table below shows the six monthly figures of taxi drivers that have satisfied the exemption conditions:

	Jun-10	Dec-10	Jun-11
Total	85	105	99

2. A Provisional (temporary) Commercial Passenger Vehicle Identity (CPVID) card is issued to a person who has not fully completed the required training requirements and achieved a minimum 220 hours of CPV driving experience.

A Provisional CPVID card is issued for up to six months during which time that person must complete the training and 220 hours on-the-job training.

This also enables on-the-job training and mentoring of new drivers. In extenuating circumstances a Provisional CPVID card may be extended.

2(a)

	Jun-10	Dec-10	Jun-11
ASP	30	30	17
DWN	78	95	98
GOV	3	3	7
KAT	1	2	9
TCK	0	0	0
Total	112	130	131

2(b)

	Jun-10	Dec-10	Jun-11
ASP	26	23	14
DWN	47	76	61
GOV	1	0	0
KAT	1	1	0
TCK	0	0	0
Total	75	100	75

3. All taxi drivers are appropriately licensed. Specific taxi driver training is provided by Registered Training Organisations and any specific complaints may be directed to 1300 654 628.