Council of Motoring Clubs Meeting

Monday 15 April 2019

CONCESSIONAL LICENSING (Code 404)

REPORT

1. MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

David Reid and I met with representatives from the Department of Transport on April 3 2019 as part of an annual stakeholders meeting program. The following items were discussed:

AGENDA ITEMS

- New CMC 1 form;
- Rewording of Condition Code 089;
- Who can drive/ride a concessionally licensed vehicle on a test drive? and
- Vehicle inspections for 404 concession.

New CMC 1 form

DoT advised that they are happy with the wording and had given the draft to their Forms Design area for format refining. In the process they had reduced the size of the sign-off name fields significantly. We asked that they be restored back to the original size. Subsequently on 8 April I received a revised version that is now suitable for use. We have now been granted permission to commence use of the new form. They have to advise all of their operational areas first, so we should probably wait a couple of weeks. The agreed transitional arrangements will allow either form to be used until everyone moves to the new one.

Rewording of Condition Code 089

The concern expressed by Phil Stockdale at our last CMC meeting had been explained to DoT well in advance of the meeting. They then referred the wording to their policy and legal areas as well as the Police before our meeting. The consensus was that there is no problem with the wording as it stands.

Who can drive/ride a concessionally licensed vehicle on a test drive?

This question is arising more and more frequently as it is considered to be a bit of a grey area. We also gave DoT prior notice on this one. We explained that our preference would be that anyone who holds the appropriate class of Driver's Licence and has the registered owner's permission can drive or ride a concessionally licensed vehicle on a test drive. DoT had no issues with that view and a clarification will be inserted in the Information Booklet in due course.

Vehicle Inspections for 404 concession

Jim Felvus from the DoT Technical Section advised that the Department would be ceasing using AVEs for inspections of Code 404 vehicles for licensing shortly and that all such inspections would have to be conducted at Authorised Inspection Stations. (Hand over to David Reid – who will speak on this item). David Reid argued strongly against that suggestion and Mr Felvus eventually agreed to reconsider the matter and come back to the CMC with an arrangement that would allow AVE inspections to continue.

OTHER BUSINESS

Modified Vehicles on 404 Concession

Jim Felvus produced a number of files showing pictures and other details of heavily modified vehicles that are apparently on Code 404 concessional licence. He asked how this could happen. David explained that there is no longer an annual inspection, so the clubs would not necessarily know if the vehicles were modified after licensing. Jim advised that each of those owners would receive a letter requesting that the vehicle be presented for an inspection within five days. Failure to comply will see the matter referred to the Police. DoT will also investigate whether the clubs involved are condoning the behaviour or complicit in licensing modified Code 404 vehicles and that could result in the withdrawal of their concessional approval.

Reporting Non-Financial Members

We were informed that the department is not receiving the usual reports of non-financial members etc. and a confirmation email address was later sent to me. I have passed that on to Sue Churn and to David.

Statistics

The following statistics as at March 12 2019 were supplied at the meeting:

Number of vehicles concessionally licensed under Code 404: 8589

Number of registered owners involved: 4544

No of Code 404 Vehicles	No of owners	Estimated savings
1-5	4366	\$385
6-10	133	\$1,606
11-15	32	\$2,662
16-20	6	\$4,638
21-25	6	\$6,644
>26	1	\$11,195

2. ACCESS TO DOT VEHICLE DATA BASE INFORMATION

As requested this question was again asked of Licensing. They telephoned me to confirm that the information is still not available and is unlikely to be available in the foreseeable future.

3. CODE 404 INFORMATION BOOKLET UPDATING

As you are aware, there are now a number of updates required for the Booklet. It is hope to achieve this in one go over the next few weeks.

Maurice Davin and David Reid

Concessional Licensing (Code 404) Delegates

Council of Motoring Clubs