**From:** Nicole Z Davis <Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 August 2023 10:13 AM

**To:** Lesley Major; Charlton Hart

**Subject:** FW: News story

Hi Team,

Heads up am planning to send this back to personal ithis morning.

Nic

Good morning person

Have double checked and as per last week, I can confirm that the scope that you agreed has now been provided to you.

With respect to the additional information you require, I have followed up internally and you will need to submit a second RTI for the additional information you require.

I understand the team have already explained that it is quite a lengthy process to get the data and will take many hours of time.

Unfortunately it is not as simple as just a running a report and due to the sensitive and confidential nature of the data extra caution be taken.

We are very happy to help you with this but must follow appropriate process.

Let me know when you have submitted and I will follow up personally.

Many thanks

Nic

# **Nic Davis**

Executive Director, Strategic Communication Unit

Governance Branch | Corporate Division | Department of Transport and Main Roads

I work flexibly at TMR. I'm sending this message now because it suits my working arrangements. I don't expect you to read, action or respond out of your normal work hours.

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001

P: (07) 3338 4129 M. NR

E: nzdavis@tmr.gld.gov.au W: www.tmr.gld.gov.au



The Department of Transport and Main Roads acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this

We also acknowledge their ancestors and Elders both past and present.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to reconciliation among all Australians.

From: personal ir persona@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 8 August 2023 6:17 PM

To: Nicole Z Davis < Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au >;

personal inform personal @Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: News story

So no progress from last week.

Thanks for the update Nic.

I'll check in with you and the Minister's office each week and we can run progress reports in the bulletin until it's available.

Kind regards,

personal info

Seven Network FOI Editor

T personal in MR

Seven Network (Operations) Limited
560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia
GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Nicole Z Davis < Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 4:32 PM

To personal informatic@Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley.Major@mihisterial.qld.gov.au>; Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>;

personal information @Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Hi person

I can see from the emails below that you did approve a scope change to the original request and I understand that you now require additional information.

Am looking into this for you. I understand from my initial chat with the data team that this is in fact a process that takes some time because of the regional distribution of data.

I am waiting for them to get back to me so that I can provide you with a definitive timeline and also some detail of the process that would need to be undertaken and will let you know as soon as I her back from them.

Many thanks

#### **Nic Davis**

**Executive Director, Strategic Communication Unit** 

Governance Branch | Corporate Division | Department of Transport and Main Roads

I work flexibly at TMR. I'm sending this message now because it suits my working arrangements. I don't expect you to read, action or respond out of your normal work hours.

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001

P: (07) 3338 4129 M NR

E: nzdavis@tmr.qld.gov.au
W: www.tmr.qld.gov.au



The Department of Transport and Main Roads acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this

We also acknowledge their ancestors and Elders both past and present.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to reconciliation among all Australians.

From personal information @Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 8 August 2023 3:25 PM

To: Nicole Z Davis < Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au >

**Cc:** Lesley Major < Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au >;

personal information @Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Will do Lesley.

Hi Nicole,

Thanks for assisting.

Can you advise me of an ETA for the following information:

- 1. How many cab drivers facing serious criminal charges from 1 January, 2022 to 3 May, 2023, had their DA licence suspended pending a decision from the court?
- 2. Of those how many were convicted and had their DA licence cancelled respectively?

Also, I note other ride share providers like Uber are not included.

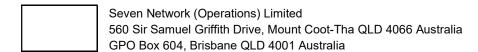
Can you please advise if there is anyone monitoring its drivers in the same way – ie. making sure they're not driving if charged/convicted of serious crimes?

Many thanks,

personal info

Seven Network FOI Editor

T 07 personal



From: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au > Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 3:14 PM To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>; Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal personal informa @Seven.com.au> Cc: personal information @Seven.com.au>; Nicole Z Davis <Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au> **Subject:** RE: News story could you please direct your questions to Nic Davis, Executive Director, TMR. Nic is working to get the data you require, however as we have explained to you repeatedly, the collation of this data will take some time. Nic is happy to talk you through all of this, to ensure you get the data you wish. Nic's number is: NR and I have also cc'd Nic into this email. Regards From personal informati @Seven.com.au> Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 3:09 PM To: Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au > personal information Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; personal information@Seven.com.au > **Subject:** RE: News story So the minister is only interested in the RTI, not the information about community safety we asked for a week ago? Got it. personal info Seven Network FOI Editor T personal inf M NR Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia From: Charlton Hart < Charlton Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au > Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 3:06 PM To: personal informati@Seven.com.au> personal information Seven.com.au> Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; personal\_information@Seven.com.au > Subject: RE: News story Again this is an issue you need to take up with the depart perso It is extremely unrealistic to expect a minister to issue a direction to a department to correct your error in an RTI

application.

As discussed we have asked whether the department can get you the info you're looking for and they are investigating this.

This is where our involvement in the matter ends.

### Thank you.



# **Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

#### Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** NR

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



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From: personal information Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 3:02 PM

To: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au > personal information @Seven.com.au >

Cc: Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au> personal information @Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: News story

It's clear that the "overview" is included which unless specified would include the status of their licence. I've highlighted that in yellow.

The RTI legislation is clear, if specific information is to be redacted like the cancellation/suspension of their licence, it must be outlined. It was not.

The Minister is head of this department, he can make a directive to the department.

Ministers frequently do.

He is not doing so in relation to this information being made available and that is very telling.

personal inform

Seven Network FOI Editor

T personal info

Seven Network (Operations) Limited
560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia
GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.gld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:55 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; personal information@Seven.com.au >

Subject: RE: News story

Hi person

It might not have made it clear enough.

Please see below in the email, the department providing you the revised scope (in green).

You agreeing with the department to the advised scope (in red).

Original copy also reattached for your record.

From: personal informat@Seven.com.au

Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 2:31 PM

To: Helen Z Adcock Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au

Subject: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

# That's fine Helen. Please proceed on this basis.

Kind regards, personal

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From: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 12:30:14 PM
To: personal informatic@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Hi person

Thank you for your email confirming that you are agreeable to amending the scope of the above referenced application relating to Taxi/ride booking drivers charged with criminal offences.

On reviewing the decision issued by Danielle for RTI-2170, it has come to my attention that the department did not hold documents relevant to, item 2 "reports relating to taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences since 1 January 2022" and item 4 "CCTV/video footage" (which Danielle advised would most likely be held by Queensland Police Service).

Based on the above and solowing an initial search being conducted by the business units confirming that a report/CCTV footage do not exist for your current application, I am seeking your advice as to whether you would be agreeable to revise the scope as follows:

- 1. Spreadsheet/table of DA holders (taxi and booked hire drivers) who have been charged with a criminal offence since 1 January 2022.
- 2. Document/s (specifically documents to summarise the actual criminal charges and an overview of DA holders who have been charged) from 1 January 2022 relating to South East Queensland (Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast) taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences.

Please let me know if you are happy with the above scope.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks and regards

#### **Helen Adcock**

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

# **Department of Transport and Main Roads**

(07) 3066 0709

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au

www.tmr.qld.gov.au



**Charlton Hart**Media Advisor

Office of the kion. Mark Bailey MP Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

P (07) 3719 7300 M NR

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



From personal information @Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:49 PM

To: Charlton Hart <Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au> personal information @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal information@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Thanks Charlton.

That's the correspondence I sent you and it doesn't say anything about removing information about DA licence suspensions/cancellations.

Kind regards,

personal informat

Seven Network FOI Editor





Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:32 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>; personal information Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@Seven.com.au >

Subject: RE: News story

Hi persor

Please find attached correspondence of you agreeing with TMR to an amended scope.

Thanks,



**Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

Queensland Government

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1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



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From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:08 PM

To: Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au> Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Even if that was true, which it isn't, you've had almost a week to provide the data.

The information is in the spreadsheet but for some reason it's been redacted.

And just summarising what you're saying to me regarding the supposed redaction of licences being

suspended/cancelled – the department has documentation proving this yet you won't provide it because of privacy, even though it's my privacy?

And yet, I have shown you the documentation which proves I did not ask for this information be redacted.

Not that any of that matters, because this information should not be kept secret and I have no idea why you would want or accept that??

personal infor

Seven Network FOI Editor

T 07 personal

Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 1:58 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal information@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Hi person

No that is not correct at all.

As outlined in my previous email – you amended your scope and removed the request for data on the number of DA's suspended or cancelled.

There are about 20,800 individual authorisations—It will obviously take a substantial amount of time to retrieve the data (hence why it's an RTI).

As I stated – even though you made an error, I have asked the department to see whether it would be possible to do us a favour and arrange for that information for without the expense of another RTI.

They are working on this to see whether it can be achieved without requiring too many resources.

It won't be quick, and I am awaiting to hear from them.

Thanks,

Queensland Government

**Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** NR

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



From personal informatic@Seven.com.au> Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 1:43 PM To: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au> Cc: Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal information@Seven.com.au> Subject: RE: News story Hi Charlton, So just confirming – your office and the department are refusing to reveal how many DA licences have been suspended or cancelled? Kind regards, personal inform Seven Network FOI Editor T 07 personal MNR Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 1:41 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Hi persona

Please see below.

## Please attribute to a Department of Transport and Main Roads spokesperson:

About 20,800 taxi and booked hire licence holders work to transport passengers safely across the State.

Safety is our number one priority and that is why there are strict regulations in place including criminal history checks before a driver authorisation is issued.

There are clear procedures within the department for drivers who are charged with a criminal offence.

A driver's authorisation will be automatically suspended if they are charged with a serious criminal offence, until the matter is dealt with via the relevant court process.

Once convicted of a serious criminal offense, the driver's authorisation is cancelled indefinitely.

#### **ENDS**

# **Background:**

- 1. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) conducts a criminal history check as part of the Booked Hire/Taxi Driver Authorisation, which a person must hold before they can drive for a taxi, limousine or rideshare operator.
- 1. Queensland Police Service notifies TMR of any criminal charge against a taxi or booked hire driver and where there are grounds to do so, TMR suspends or cancels the person's Driver Authorisation as soon as possible.
- 2. In cases where an operator notifies TMR of an incident, TMR immediately reports the incident to QPS.
- 3. All taxis and rideshare vehicles that meet the relevant risk criteria must be fitted with approved security cameras for the safety of drivers and passengers.

Kindest regards,



**Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** <sup>NR</sup>

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 1:14 PM

To: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.glo.gov.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; media@tmr.qld.gov.au; personal info

personal @Seven.com.au> Subject: RE: News story

Thanks Charlton, I ask for this to be verified rather than just assumed.

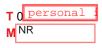
And also, just as importantly, whether their licences are suspended pending a court decision.

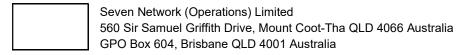
Most of these incidents are violent sexual assaults including choking and strangulation.

Kind regards,

personal informa

Seven Network FOI Editor





From: Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:57 PM

To: personal information @Seven.com.au>; personal information @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; media@tmr.qld.gov.au

Subject: RE: News story

Hi person

We can get the department to get you a response if you're running something tonight?

I think it goes without saying that anyone convicted of a serious offence like homicide or sexual assault would no longer have authorisation.....



Government

# **Charlton Hart**

Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads & Minister for Digital Services

P (07) 3719 7300 M

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



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From personal informatio@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:39 PM

To: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; media@tmr.qld.gov.au

Subject: RE: News story

Hi Charlton,

I'm just cc'ing personal inf into this as sine'll be reporting on it tonight.

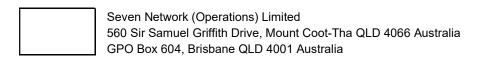
persor – I'll send you a separate email with a summary and all the details on this.

Meanwhile, you can see that I've been seeking clarification on the number of DA's (ride share licences) revoked regarding criminal cabbies/other service drivers who have been convicted of serious crimes (against the person) ie sex assaults, physical assaults, homicide. It's unclear whether ANY of them have been revoked.



Seven Network FOI Editor





From: personal inf

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 11:17 AM

To: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; media@tmr.qld.gov.au

Subject: RE: News story

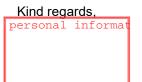
Hi Charlton,

I've provided the email exchange, I was part of it. If there is anything else, I don't have it.

Regardless of anything, the department still hasn't explained why they won't provide detail as to how many DA's have been revoked and that is the hook to my story.

We can only assume people are being placed in danger if criminal are being allowed to continue operating as cab/uber drivers.

If the Minister doesn't care about this level of detail then he comes across as complicit.



Seven Network FOI Editor





Seven Network (Operations) Limited
560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia
GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 10:52 AM

To personal information Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Subject: RE: News story



My sincere apologies -- I didn't have it on the list to get back to you yesterday.

TMR came back and said the revised scope was agreed to in an email between yourself and the RTI officer.

Unfortunately, due to privacy reason we are not able to obtain a copy.

However, we have asked the department whether they could get the information for you, given that it was included in your original scope.

They are looking into it and will come back to us shortly.

I apologize for the inconvenience.

Thank you,



**Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

# Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads & Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** <sup>NR</sup>

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



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From: personal information Seven.com.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2023 10:49 AM

**To:** Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

**Cc:** Lesley Major < Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; media@tmr.qld.gov.au

**Subject:** RE: News story

Hi Charlton,

I hope you had a good weekend.

Just following up on this.

Many thanks, personal infor

Seven Network FOI Editor

T personal in



Seven Network (Operations) Limited

560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia

GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 6:06 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Subject: RE: News story

Hi person

Thank for your reply.

I am in agreeance with you that the email chain below doesn't show any evidence that you accepted or changed the scope.

I have spoken to the department and have asked to see what they are referring to.

The relevant team have finished for the weekend. This will be followed up first thing Monday morning for you.

I will also be pursuing this to get you a timely response.

#### Kindest regards



# **Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

## Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads & Minister for Digital Services

P (07) 3719 7300 M NR

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



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From: personal information Seven.com.au>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 4:11 PM

**To:** Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Cc: Lesley Major < <a href="mailto:Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

**Subject:** RE: News story

Hi Charlton,

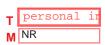
You'll have to provide me with documented evidence of that because you can see at the bottom of this email that the information I agreed to exclude did not include whether the DA licence was revoked.

There is no documentation I can find suggesting I did. Ergo, it should be included and if the Minister nor the Department don't know, then that's a story in itself.

Kind regards,

personal informa

Seven Network FOI Editor





Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 4:03 PM
To: personal informati @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Subject: RE: News story

Hi perso

I hope you are well.

Apologies for the delay in responding to you – the nature of this RTI was for department-held data so this falls outside the remit of the minister and our office.

However, I have spoken to the department, and they have advised that the agreed scope for the RTI did not include 'the number of DA licences revoked for SEQ'.

They have also advised that in order to get this data for you, it would require substantial department resources and therefore requires an RTI application.

They are happy to investigate this if you do decide to proceed with the application and i'm sure the data would be collected and able to be retrieved.

We are also working on a response for you regarding community safety.

Kindest regards,



From: personal informati @Seven.com.au>

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 11:46 AM

To: media@tmr.qld.gov.au; Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Subject: Re: News story

Good morning,

You mention that questions 1 and 2 require another RTI but my current RTI requested the outcome for SEQ ie. the number of DA licences revoked wasn't provided.

So that means your department won't provide that information at all.

My additional questions are

- 1. why won't that information be released for SEQ as I've already undertaken an RTI on that?
- 2. What assurances can you give the public that their safety is being taken seriously.

The second subsequent question is specifically for the minister as that's his responsibility and will be reported as such.



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From personal in:

Sent: Thursday, August 3, 2023 12:30:55 PM

To: media@tmr.qld.gov.au <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; charlton.hart@minisiterial.qld.gov.au

<charlton.hart@minisiterial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: News story

Good afternoon,

I'm doing a story on the RTI release relating to:

1.Spreadsheet/table of DA holders (taxi and booked hire drivers) who have been charged with a criminal offence since 1 January 2022. 2.Document/s (specifically documents to summarise the actual criminal charges and an overview of DA holders who have been charged) from 1 January 2022 relating to South East Queensland (Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast) taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences. Date range for request: 1 January 2022 to 4 May 2023. (attached)

I have the following clarifying questions for an upcoming news story:

- 1. How many DA holders across QLD were charged with a criminal offence in 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years respectively?
- 2. Of the drivers charged with offences against the person, how many had their DA licence revoked? Please provide a breakdown as to whether it was temporary or permanent.
- 3. Are drivers charged with serious criminal charges such as offences against the person allowed to keep operating ahead of a verdict/decision? If so, why?

I also request an interview with the Minister or a Department spokesperson for the story. Please advise whether either will be made available.

My deadline is COB tomorrow.

Kind regards,

personal informa

Seven Network FOI Editor

personal infor

| S | 5

Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604 Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

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From: Danielle A Wilis < Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Subject: RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Good morning perso

I refer to the decision dated 5 July 2023.

Following the receipt of your cheque in the amount of \$442.55 in payment of the processing charges, please find attached a copy of the released documents.

Please note that the processing of a Right to Information application by the department is not a taxable supply and the department is not required to issue tax invoices.

Should you wish to discuss your application in any way, please contact me on 07 3066 0728.

Kind regards Danielle

#### **Danielle Wills**

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division **Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.gld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 25 July 2023 2:17 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.gld.gov.au>

Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

Subject: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

That's fine. Thanks Danielle

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From: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills @tmr.qld.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 2:14:56 PiW To: personal informati@Seven.com.au> Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

No worries at all

Is 930am too late?

## **Danielle Wills**

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 25 July 2023 2:13 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

Subject: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

First thing tomorrow morning would work better if that's ok please Danielle?

Thank you!

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From: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:48:39 PM To: personal informati@Seven.com.au> Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Hi perso

The cheque for the payment of the processing charges was received today. Will I email a copy of the released documents today?

Kind regards Danielle

**Danielle Wills** 

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

P: 07 3066 0728

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001

danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au

www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From personal informatic@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 July 2023 4:33 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < <a href="mailto:Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au">Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au</a>>

Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

Subject: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Argh. Thanks Danielle. Hopefully tomorrow

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From: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:28:25 PM To: personal informati@Seven.com.au> **Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Hi person

I'm ok. RTI keeping us busy. Hope you are well too.

No cheque as yet. I will email them as soon the payment is received.

Kind regards Danielle

#### **Danielle Wills**

A/Principal Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal information Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 July 2023 1:36 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.gld.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Hi Danielle,

I hope you're well.

Have you got this one yet?

The cheque has hopefully reached you by now.

If so, are you able to please email me the docs?

Thank you.

Kind regards, personal informa

Seven Network FOI Editor

personal info

Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia

GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 3:45 PM
To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Hi perso

Please find attached the decision.

Please note that I will be leave from tomorrow and back on Monday 10 July 2023.

Kind regards Danielle

#### **Danielle Wills**

A/Principal Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: Danielle A Wills

Sent: Monday, 12 June 2023 2:06 PM
To: personal informatio Seven.com.au>

Subject: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Hi personal

After examining the documents relevant to your application, I have decided that it is necessary for me to consult under section 37 of the RTI Act with a third party who I believe may have concerns about the release of information to you.

Section 18(2)(d) of the RTI Act (processing period) sets out that if consultation of this type is required, the department is allowed an additional 10 business days to process the application. As a result of this consultation, the due date for notifying you of my decision is 7 July 2023

Please also note that, under section 37 of the RTI Act, if an objection to release is raised, I must defer giving you access to the documents in issue until after the third party's appeal rights under the RTI Act have been exhausted.

If you have any further questions, you may contact me on 07 3066 0728.

Kind regards Danielle

**Danielle Wills** 

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: Danielle A Wills

Sent: Thursday, 8 June 2023 4:28 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Subject: CM: RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport

and Main Roads

Thank you person No worries at all. Talk soon. Kind regards Danielle **Danielle Wills** Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division **Department of Transport and Main Roads** P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au From: personal information Seven.com.au> Sent: Thursday, 8 June 2023 1:33 PM To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au> Subject: RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads Hi Danielle, Sorry been flat-out. Hopefully Helen has a great break. Yes, that's fine 😊 personal infor FOI Editor, Seven Network personal infor NR Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2023 1:28 PM

To personal informatio@Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and

Main Roads

Hi perso

Further to Helen's email below, I confirm that I will be finalising your application.

I am starting to review the documents - similar to your previous application (our reference of RTI-2170), do you agree to removing the following as 'Not Relevant'?

- Name and date of birth;
- Licence/customer reference number details;
- Specific details about the charge;
- Day of the month the arrest occurred;
- Day of the month for the court hearing;
- Courthouse name of a smaller town;
- QPS reference numbers.

If you have any further questions, please contact me on 3066 0728.

Kind regards Danielle

#### **Danielle Wills**

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: Helen Z Adcock

Sent: Wednesday, 7 June 2023 10:25 AM

To: personal informatic Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and

Main Roads

Hi persona

Hope you are well.

I am going on leave for 5 weeks commencing tomorrow and reallocating your application to Danielle to continue to process. However I thought I would contact you first to enquiry whether there was any urgency with you receiving a decision and if not, would you consider putting the application on hold (by granting me an extension) until I return from leave.

Currently the team is experiencing a high workload and the above would alleviate that somewhat however this suggestion is only if it suited you.

Thanks perso, look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

## Helen Adcock

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

(07) 3066 0709

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From personal informatic@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 24 May 2023 8:42 AM

To: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Subject: CM: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and

Main Roads

That's fine. Thanks Helen.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Helen Z Adcock < Helen. Z. Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:38:15 AM
To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Dear personal

I refer to your below email agreeing to the estimated charges.

As advised in my Charges Estimate Notice, the period of time between when the notice is given and the day you return the notice is not included in the time frame of business days to process your application. Accordingly, the new due date for a decision on your application is 23 June 2023.

Could you please confirm that you consent to the removal of the information referenced in my previous email.

Thanks and regards

## **Helen Adcock**

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

Department of Transport and Main Roads

(07) 3066 0709

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal information Seven.com.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 23 May 2023 10:51 AM

To: Helen Z Adcock <Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Subject: CM: RE: RTI-3371 - Charges Estimate Notice - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the

Department of Transport and Main Roads

Hi Helen,

Thanks for the CEN. I confirm I wish to proceed. Kind regards,

personal infor

FOI Editor, Seven Network

T+61 personal in

Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:17 AM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RTI-3371 - Charges Estimate Notice - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department

of Transport and Main Roads

Dear person

Attached is a Charges Estimate Notice for the above access application relating to Taxi/ride booking drivers charged with criminal offences.

Noting you agreed to the below information being removed as non relevant for the previous access application (RTI-2170), it would be appreciated if you could advise as to whether you would agree for the same type of information to be removed from the responsive documents for the current application.:

- Name and date of birth
- Licence/customer reference number details
- Specific details about the charge
- Day of the month the arrest occurred
- Day of the month for the court hearing
- Courthouse name of a smaller town; and
- QPS reference numbers.

Thanks person

Kind regards

**Helen Adcock** 

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

Department of Transport and Main Roads

(07) 3066 0709

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From: Media Reporters

To: <u>External - Media Reporters</u>

Subject: 4BC - Drive: Qld Taxi Licence Owner's Association CEO Paul Scaini re suspending licenses of taxi/rideshare

drivers doing wrong thing

**Date:** Tuesday, 8 August 2023 4:07:52 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

image003.png image002.png

**4BC Drive with Peter Gleeson:** Interview with Queensland Taxi Licence Owner's Association CEO Paul Scaini re taxi and rideshare drivers overcharging and refusing jobs. *Audio here*.

### **Peter Gleeson:**

- The Queensland Government fined 750 taxi and rideshare drivers doing the wrong thing from November to January.
- The Government today announced that taxi and rideshare drivers caught doing the wrong thing will risk losing their operating licenses.

#### Paul Scaini:

- The Government's announcement is not going to achieve anything.
- The Government should instead increase fines and consider why the system is failing the public and the cab/rideshare drivers.
- We've been calling on the **Minister** to make rideshare vehicles as safe as taxi cabs to stop rapes and assaults occurring in rideshare vehicles.

Kind regards,
Gary

Please note: Due to copyright restrictions, video and audio clips are for internal use only.

#### **Gary Robertson**

Media Reporting Officer | External Relations and Services

## **Engagement and Events**

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

P 07 3003 9151 MNR MS Team

1 William Street, Level 29, Brisbane QLD 4000

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**From:** Nicole Z Davis <Nicole.Z.Davis@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Sent:Tuesday, 8 August 2023 2:16 PMTo:Charlton Hart; Lesley MajorCc:Media; James X Murphy

**Subject:** FW: News story

**Attachments:** Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the

Department of Transport and Main Roads

HI Charlton – email attached re scope reduction for the RTI.

Nic

#### **Nic Davis**

Executive Director, Strategic Communication Unit

Governance Branch | Corporate Division | Department of Transport and Main Roads

I work flexibly at TMR. I'm sending this message now because it suits my working arrangements. I don't expect you to read, action or respond out of your normal work hours.

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Old 4001

P: (07) 3338 4129 M: NR E: nzdavis@tmr.qld.gov.au W: www.tmr.qld.gov.au



The Department of Transport and Main Roads acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this We also acknowledge their ancestors and Elders both past and present.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to reconciliation among all Australians.

From: personal information @Seven.com.au>

**Sent:** Friday, 19 May 2023 2:31 PM

**To:** Helen Z Adcock

**Subject:** Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the

Department of Transport and Main Roads

That's fine Helen. Please proceed on this basis. Kind regards,

person

## Get Outlook for iOS

From: Helen Z Adcock < Helen. Z. Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 12:30:14 PM
To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Hi person

Thank you for your email confirming that you are agreeable to amending the scope of the above referenced application relating to Taxi/ride booking drivers charged with criminal offences.

On reviewing the decision issued by Danielle for RTI-2170, it has come to my attention that the department did not hold documents relevant to, item 2 "reports relating to taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences since 1 January 2022" and item 4 "CCTV/video footage" (which Danielle advised would most likely be held by Queensland Police Service).

Based on the above and following an initial search being conducted by the business units confirming that a report/CCTV footage do not exist for your current application, I am seeking your advice as to whether you would be agreeable to revise the scope as follows:

- 1. Spreadsheet/table of DA holders (taxi and booked hire drivers) who have been charged with a criminal offence since 1 January 2022.
- 2. Document/s (specifically documents to summarise the actual criminal charges and an overview of DA holders who have been charged) from 1 January 2022 relating to South East Queensland (Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast) taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences.

Please let me know if you are happy with the above scope.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks and regards

#### **Helen Adcock**

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads (07) 3066 0709
Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001
helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au
www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal information Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 16 May 2023 11:10 AM

To: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Subject: CM: RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application

Hi Helen,

Yes, looks good. Happy to go with that.

Many thanks,

perso

personal inform

FOI Editor, Seven Network

T personal inform +



Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 5:17 PM

To: personal information Seven.com.au>

Subject: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application

Dear person

I refer to your Information Access Application to the Department of Transport and Main Roads (department) requesting access to the below documents under the *Right to Information Act 2009* (Qld) (RTI Act):

Any documents, including reports, AV material such as photos and CCTV/video footage relating to taxi drivers or drivers of other passenger services such as Uber or OLA, who have been charged with criminal offences. Without limiting the application, documents are to include any details of an investigation and the outcome, and whether the driver was allowed to keep their taxi licence/driver authorisation.

Duplicates, documents that have already been publicly released, media reports and media articles can be excluded. Consultation is required for documents to be deemed as irrelevant.

Date range for request: 1 January 2022 to 4 May 2023.

Based on the preliminary estimates provided by the relevant divisions, I have determined that the work involved in dealing with your application in its current form would be a substantial and unreasonable diversion of the department's resources.

Noting that a similar application has been processed in the past (RTI-2170), I am enquiring as to whether you would consider amending the scope of your current application. The scope for RTI-2170 was narrowed down to:

- 1. Spreadsheet/table of DA holders (taxi and booked hire drivers) who have been charged with a criminal offence since 1 January 2019.
- 2. Reports relating to taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Über, who have been charged with criminal offences since 1 January 2019.
- 3. Document/s (specifically documents to summarise the actual criminal charges and an overview of DA holders who have been charged) from 1/01/2021 relating to South East Queensland (Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast) taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences.
- 4. CCTV/video footage of any incidents relating to taxi drivers or ride sharing services, who have been charged with criminal offences since 1 January 2019.

Would you consider amending the scope of your current application to a similar scope as above, in an attempt to remove the grounds to refuse to deal with your application (section 42 of the RTI Act)?

Happy to chat tomorrow to discuss further.

Kind regards

#### **Helen Adcock**

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

(07) 3066 0709
Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001
helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au
www.tmr.qld.gov.au

3

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From: Hannah Whittle

Sent: Tuesday, 8 August 2023 1:34 PM

To: Charlton Hart Lesley Major

Subject: Re: For approval | Media response | Channel 7 | Criminal charges against taxi and

booked hire drivers

G2G

Sent from my iPhone

On 8 Aug 2023, at 1:33 pm, Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

## **ENQUIRY**

Q: What assurances can you give the public that their safety is being taken seriously.

Q: Are drivers charged with serious criminal charges such as offences against the person allowed to keep operating ahead of a verdict/decision? If so, why?

## **MEDIA RESPONSE:**

Please attribute to a Department of Transport and Main Roads spokesperson:

About 20,800 taxi and booked hire licence holders work to transport passengers safely across the State.

Safety is our number one priority and that is why there are strict regulations in place including criminal history checks before a driver authorisation is issued.

There are clear procedures within the department for drivers who are charged with a criminal offence.

A driver's authorisation will be automatically suspended if they are charged with a serious criminal offence, until the matter is dealt with via the relevant court process.

Once convicted of a serious criminal offense, the driver's authorisation is cancelled indefinitely.

# ENDS

# **Background:**

1. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) conducts a criminal history check as part of the Booked Hire/Taxi Driver Authorisation, which a

- person must hold before they can drive for a taxi, limousine or rideshare operator.
- 1. Queensland Police Service notifies TMR of any criminal charge against a taxi or booked hire driver and where there are grounds to do so, TMR suspends or cancels the person's Driver Authorisation as soon as possible.
- 2. In cases where an operator notifies TMR of an incident, TMR immediately reports the incident to QPS.
- All taxis and rideshare vehicles that meet the relevant risk criteria must be fitted with approved security cameras for the safety of drivers and passengers.



**Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

P (07) 3719 7300 M<sup>NR</sup>

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



From: Douglas C Estwick < Douglas. Estwick@translink.com.au>

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 5:10 PM

To: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Lesley Major

<Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Translink Media <Translink.Media@translink.com.au>; @Minister Bailey Media

<MinisterBaileyMedia@min.internal>

Subject: For approval | Media response | Channel 7 | Criminal charges against taxi and booked hire

drivers

Hi team,

As discussed, below is our proposed response to the questions from community safety.

personal i regarding

Please let me know if you have any concerns or if I can assist further at this stage.

Kind regards,

Doug

**Douglas Estwick** Senior Advisor - Media

Office of the Deputy Director-General | Translink Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

P: 07 3338 4040 NR
Floor 1 | 61 Mary Street | Brishane

Floor 1 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 50 | Brisbane Qld 4001 douglas.estwick@translink.com.au

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From: Charlton Hart

Sent: Tuesday, 8 August 2023 1:34 PM

To: Hannah Whittle Cc: Lesley Major

Subject: RE: For approval | Media response | Channel 7 | Criminal charges against taxi and

booked hire drivers

## **ENQUIRY**

Q: What assurances can you give the public that their safety is being taken seriously.

Q: Are drivers charged with serious criminal charges such as offences against the person allowed to keep operating ahead of a verdict/decision? If so, why?

## **MEDIA RESPONSE:**

# Please attribute to a Department of Transport and Main Roads spokesperson:

About 20,800 taxi and booked hire licence holders work to transport passengers safely across the State.

Safety is our number one priority and that is why there are strict regulations in place including criminal history checks before a driver authorisation is issued.

There are clear procedures within the department for drivers who are charged with a criminal offence.

A driver's authorisation will be automatically suspended if they are charged with a serious criminal offence, until the matter is dealt with via the relevant court process.

Once convicted of a serious criminal offense, the driver's authorisation is cancelled indefinitely.

## **ENDS**

# **Background:**

- The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) conducts a criminal history check as part of the Booked Hire/Taxi Driver Authorisation, which a person must hold before they can drive for a taxi, limousine or rideshare operator.
- Queensland Police Service notifies TMR of any criminal charge against a taxi or booked hire driver and where there are grounds to do so, TMR suspends or cancels the person's Driver Authorisation as soon as possible.
- In cases where an operator notifies TMR of an incident, TMR immediately reports the incident to QPS.
- All taxis and rideshare vehicles that meet the relevant risk criteria must be fitted with approved security cameras for the safety of drivers and passengers.



# **Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

# Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

P (07) 3719 7300 M

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



From: Douglas C Estwick < Douglas. Estwick@translink.com.au>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 5:10 PM

To: Charlton Hart <Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Translink Media <Translink.Media@translink.com.au>; @Minister Bailey Media

<MinisterBaileyMedia@min.internal>

Subject: For approval | Media response | Channel 7 | Criminal charges against taxi and booked hire drivers

Hi team,

As discussed, below is our proposed response to the questions from personal

regarding community safety.

Please let me know if you have any concerns or if I can assist further at this stage.

Kind regards, Doug

**Douglas Estwick** 

Senior Advisor - Media Office of the Deputy Director-General | Translink Division **Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

P: 07 3338 4040

Floor 1 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 50 | Brisbane Qld 4001

douglas.estwick@translink.com.au

www.translink.com.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

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From: Charlton Hart

Sent: Tuesday, 8 August 2023 12:49 PM

To: Nicole Z Davis
Cc: Lesley Major
Subject: FW: News story

Hey Nic,

Can we please get the email where she agreed to the revised scope.

They're obviously trying to pressure a speedier response.

Would you be able to provide?

Thanks,



# **Charlton Hart**

Media Advisor

# Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** <sup>NR</sup>

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



Good **jobs**Better **services**Great **lifestyle** 

From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:39 PM

**To:** Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; <a href="mailto:personal information">personal information</a> @Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major <Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; media@tmr.qld.gov.au

Subject: RE: News story

Hi Charlton,

I'm just cc'ing personal infinto this as she'll be reporting on it tonight.

personali'll send you a separate email with a summary and all the details on this.

Meanwhile, you can see that I've been seeking clarification on the number of DA's (ride share licences) revoked regarding criminal cabbies/other service drivers who have been convicted of serious crimes (against the person) ie sex assaults, physical assaults, homicide. It's unclear whether ANY of them have been revoked.

Kind regards, personal infor

Seven Network FOI Editor





Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: personal in

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 11:17 AM

To: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley.Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; media@tmr.qld.gov.au

Subject: RE: News story

Hi Charlton,

I've provided the email exchange, I was part of it. If there is anything else, I don't have it.

Regardless of anything, the department still hasn't explained why they won't provide detail as to how many DA's have been revoked and that is the hook to my story.

We can only assume people are being placed in danger if criminal are being allowed to continue operating as cab/uber drivers.

If the Minister doesn't care about this level of detail then he comes across as complicit.

## Kind regards,

personal inform

Seven Network FOI Editor





Seven Network (Operations) Limited
560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia
GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 10:52 AM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley Major @ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Hi person

My sincere apologies — I didn't have it on the list to get back to you yesterday.

TMR came back and said the revised scope was agreed to in an email between yourself and the RTI officer.

Unfortunately, due to privacy reason we are not able to obtain a copy.

However, we have asked the department whether they could get the information for you, given that it was included in your original scope.

They are looking into it and will come back to us shortly.

I apologize for the inconvenience.

Thank you,



# **Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

# Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** NR

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



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From personal information Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 10:49 AM

To: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >; media@tmr.qld.gov.au

Subject: RE: News story

Hi Charlton,

I hope you had a good weekend.

Just following up on this.

Many thanks,

personal infor

Seven Network FOI Editor





Seven Network (Operations) Limited

560 Sir Samuel Grifftin Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia

GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart < <a href="mailto:Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au">Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au</a>>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 6:06 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Subject: RE: News story

Hi persona

Thank for your reply.

I am in agreeance with you that the email chain below doesn't show any evidence that you accepted or changed the scope.

I have spoken to the department and have asked to see what they are referring to.

The relevant team have finished for the weekend. This will be followed up first thing Monday morning for you.

I will also be pursuing this to get you a timely response.

Kindest regards



# **Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** NR

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



Great lifestyle

From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 4:11 PM

To: Charlton Hart < Charlton. Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au> Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: RE: News story

Hi Charlton,

You'll have to provide me with documented evidence of that because you can see at the bottom of this email that the information I agreed to exclude did not include whether the DA licence was revoked.

There is no documentation I can find suggesting I did. Ergo, it should be included and if the Minister nor the Department don't know, then that's a story in itself.

Kind regards,

personal info

Seven Network FOI Editor

personal info M NR



Seven Network (Operations) Limited

560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia

GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Charlton Hart <Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 4:03 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Cc: Lesley Major < Lesley. Major@ministerial.qld.gov.au >

Subject: RE: News story

Hi perso

I hope you are well.

Apologies for the delay in responding to you – the nature of this RTI was for department-held data so this falls outside the remit of the minister and our office.

However, I have spoken to the department, and they have advised that the agreed scope for the RTI did not include 'the number of DA licences revoked for SEQ'.

They have also advised that in order to get this data for you, it would require substantial department resources and therefore requires an RTI application.

They are happy to investigate this if you do decide to proceed with the application and I'm sure the data would be collected and able to be retrieved.

We are also working on a response for you regarding community safety.

Kindest regards,



**Charlton Hart** Media Advisor

Office of the Hon. Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

& Minister for Digital Services

**P** (07) 3719 7300 **M** NR

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000



From personal informati @Seven.com.au>

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2023 11:46 AM

To: media@tmr.qld.gov.au; Charlton Hart < Charlton.Hart@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Re: News story

Good morning,

You mention that questions 1 and 2 require another RTI but my current RTI requested the outcome for SEQ ie. the number of DA licences revoked wasn't provided.

So that means your department won't provide that information at all.

My additional questions are

- 1. why won't that information be released for SEQ as I've already undertaken an RTI on that?
- 2. What assurances can you give the public that their safety is being taken seriously.

The second subsequent question is specifically for the minister as that's his responsibility and will be reported as such.

# Regards,

personal

## Get Outlook for iOS

From: personal inf

Sent: Thursday, August 3, 2023 12:30:55 PM

To: media@tmr.qld.gov.au <media@tmr.qld.gov.au>; charlton.hart@minisiterial.qld.gov.au

<charlton.hart@minisiterial.qld.gov.au>

**Subject:** News story

Good afternoon,

I'm doing a story on the RTI release relating to:

1.Spreadsheet/table of DA holders (taxi and booked hire drivers) who have been charged with a criminal offence since 1 January 2022. 2.Document/s (specifically documents to summarise the actual criminal charges and an overview of DA holders who have been charged) from 1 January 2022 relating to South East Queensland (Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast) taxi drivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences. Date range for request: 1 January 2022 to 4 May 2023. (attached)

I have the following clarifying questions for an upcoming news story;

- 1. How many DA holders across QLD were charged with a criminal offence in 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years respectively?
- 2. Of the drivers charged with offences against the person, how many had their DA licence revoked? Please provide a breakdown as to whether it was temporary or permanent.
- 3. Are drivers charged with serious criminal charges such as offences against the person allowed to keep operating ahead of a verdict/decision? If so, why?

I also request an interview with the Minister or a Department spokesperson for the story. Please advise whether either will be made available.

My deadline is COB tomorrow.

Kind regards,

personal infor

Seven Network FOI Editor

personal info



Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

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From: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2023 9:37:16 AM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>
Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Good morning persona

I refer to the decision dated 5 July 2023.

Following the receipt of your cheque in the amount of \$442.55 in payment of the processing charges, please find attached a copy of the released documents.

Please note that the processing of a Right to Information application by the department is not a taxable supply and the department is not required to issue tax invoices.

Should you wish to discuss your application in any way, please contact me on 07 3066 0728.

Kind regards Danielle

## **Danielle Wills**

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From personal informatio@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 25 July 2023 2:17 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Cc: personal informat: seven.com.au>

**Subject:** Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

That's fine. Thanks Danielle

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From: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 2:14:56 PM
To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>
Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

No worries at all

personal i

Is 930am too late?

#### **Danielle Wills**

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 25 July 2023 2:13 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Cc personal informati@seven.com.au>

Subject: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

First thing tomorrow morning would work better if that's ok please Danielle?

Thank you!

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Danielle A Wills < <a href="mailto:Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au">Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au</a>>

Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:48:39 PM To personal informatio@Seven.com.au> Cc: personal informat seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

person

The cheque for the payment of the processing charges was received today. Will I email a copy of the released documents today?

Kind regards Danielle

**Danielle Wills** 

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management

Governance Branch | Corporate Division

Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Old 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Clid 4001

danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au

www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 July 2023 4:33 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

Cc: personal informat@seven.com.au>

Subject: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

8

Argh. Thanks Danielle. Hopefully tomorrow 6



From: Danielle A Wills < <a href="mailto:Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au">Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au</a>>

Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:28:25 PM
To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Hi perso

I'm ok. RTI keeping us busy. Hope you are well too.

No cheque as yet. I will email them as soon the payment is received.

Kind regards Danielle

## **Danielle Wills**

A/Principal Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal informati @Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 18 July 2023 1:36 PM

To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Hi Danielle,

I hope you're well.

Have you got this one yet?

The cheque has hopefully reached you by now.

If so, are you able to please email me the docs?

Thank you.

Kind regards,

personal infor

Seven Network FOI Editor

T personal i

Seven 560 Si GPO F

Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Danielle A Wills < <a href="mailto:Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au">Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au</a>>

Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 3:45 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RE: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Hi personal :

Please find attached the decision.

Please note that I will be leave from tomorrow and back on Monday 10 July 2023.

Kind regards Danielle

## **Danielle Wills**

A/Principal Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: Danielle A Wills

Sent: Monday, 12 June 2023 2:06 PM
To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Hi person

After examining the documents relevant to your application, I have decided that it is necessary for me to consult under section 37 of the RTI Act with a third party who I believe may have concerns about the release of information to you.

Section 18(2)(d) of the RTI Act (processing period) sets out that if consultation of this type is required, the department is allowed an additional 10 business days to process the application. As a result of this consultation, the due date for notifying you of my decision is 7 July 2023.

Please also note that, under section 37 of the RTI Act, if an objection to release is raised, I must defer giving you access to the documents in issue until after the third party's appeal rights under the RTI Act have been exhausted.

If you have any further questions, you may contact me on 07 3066 0728.

Kind regards Danielle

**Danielle Wills** 

Senior Advisor (RTI-and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: Danielle A Wills Sent: Thursday, 8 June 2023 4:28 PM To: personal informati@Seven.com.au> Subject: CM: RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads Thank you No worries at all. Talk soon. Kind regards Danielle **Danielle Wills** Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division **Department of Transport and Main Roads** P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001 danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au From personal informatio@Seven.com.au> Sent: Thursday, 8 June 2023 1:33 PM To: Danielle A Wills < Danielle.A. Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au> Subject: RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads Hi Danielle, Sorry been flat-out. Hopefully Helen has a great break. Yes, that's fine 😊 personal info FOI Editor, Seven Network personal NR

From: Danielle A Wills < <a href="mailto:Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au">Danielle.A.Wills@tmr.qld.gov.au</a>>

Seven Network (Operations) Limited

GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia

Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2023 1:28 PM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and

Main Roads

Hi person

Further to Helen's email below, I confirm that I will be finalising your application.

I am starting to review the documents - similar to your previous application (our reference of RTI-2170), do you agree to removing the following as 'Not Relevant'?

- Name and date of birth;
- Licence/customer reference number details;
- Specific details about the charge;
- Day of the month the arrest occurred;
- Day of the month for the court hearing;
- Courthouse name of a smaller town;
- QPS reference numbers.

If you have any further questions, please contact me on 3066 0728.

Kind regards Danielle

#### **Danielle Wills**

Senior Advisor (RTI and Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3066 0728 Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001

danielle.a.wills@tmr.qld.gov.au www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: Helen Z Adcock

Sent: Wednesday, 7 June 2023 10:25 AM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RE: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and

Main Roads

Hi person

Hope you are well.

I am going on leave for 5 weeks commencing tomorrow and reallocating your application to Danielle to continue to process. However I thought I would contact you first to enquiry whether there was any urgency with you receiving a decision and if not, would you consider putting the application on hold (by granting me an extension) until I return from leave.

Currently the team is experiencing a high workload and the above would alleviate that somewhat however this suggestion is only if it suited you.

Thank person look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

**Helen Adcock** 

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management

Governance Branch | Corporate Division

# **Department of Transport and Main Roads**

(07) 3066 0709

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000 GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001

helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au

www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From personal informatic@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 24 May 2023 8:42 AM

To: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Subject: CM: Re: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and

Main Roads

That's fine. Thanks Helen.

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From: Helen Z Adcock < Helen. Z. Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:38:15 AM To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

Subject: RTI-3371 - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main

Roads

Dear perso

I refer to your below email agreeing to the estimated charges.

As advised in my Charges Estimate Notice, the period of time between when the notice is given and the day you return the notice is not included in the timeframe of business days to process your application. Accordingly, the new due date for a decision on your application is 23 June 2023.

Could you please confirm that you consent to the removal of the information referenced in my previous email.

Thanks and regards

# **Helen Adcock**

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

(07) 3066 0709

Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000

GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001

helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au

www.tmr.qld.gov.au

From: personal informatic@Seven.com.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 23 May 2023 10:51 AM

To: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

**Subject:** CM: RE: RTI-3371 - Charges Estimate Notice - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Department of Transport and Trans

Hi Helen,

Thanks for the CEN. I confirm I wish to proceed.

Kind regards,

personal inform

FOI Editor, Seven Network

T personal infor

Seven Network (Operations) Limited 560 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mount Coot-Tha QLD 4066 Australia GPO Box 604, Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia

From: Helen Z Adcock < Helen.Z.Adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au >

Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:17 AM

To: personal informati@Seven.com.au>

**Subject:** RTI-3371 - Charges Estimate Notice - Right to Information Access Application submitted to the Department of Transport and Main Roads

Dear

Attached is a Charges Estimate Notice for the above access application relating to Taxi/ride booking drivers charged with criminal offences.

Noting you agreed to the below information being removed as non relevant for the previous access application (RTI-2170), it would be appreciated if you could advise as to whether you would agree for the same type of information to be removed from the responsive documents for the current application.:

- Name and date of birth
- Licence/customer reference number details
- Specific details about the charge
- Day of the month the arrest occurred
- Day of the month for the court hearing
- Courthouse name of a smaller town; and
- QPS reference numbers.

Thanks person

Kind regards

## **Helen Adcock**

Principal Advisor (RTI & Privacy) | RTI, Privacy and Complaints Management Governance Branch | Corporate Division

**Department of Transport and Main Roads** 

(07) 3066 0709
Floor 8 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001
helen.z.adcock@tmr.qld.gov.au
www.tmr.qld.gov.au

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Page 60 redacted for the following reason:
Schedule 2 Part 2 - PTi processing document

From: Translink Media <Translink.Media@translink.com.au>

**Sent:** Friday, 30 June 2023 1:50 PM **To:** Lesley Major; Charlton Hart

Cc: @Minister Bailey Media; Cameron Y Leslie; Translink Media; Michael P Cormack

Subject: Hot Issues Brief | Seven News RTI-3371 - documents proposed for release |

Translink media personal in

Attachments: RTI-3371 Proposed Release.pdf

Hi team,

from Seven News has made an RTI application asking for a 'table of DA holders (taxi and booked hire drivers) who have been charged with a criminal offence since 1 January 2022.'

This is a repeat of an application submitted last year, with last year's story appearing in February https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1055105525050906

A 7 News investigation has uncovered documents revealing more than 150 ride share drivers were before
Queensland courts last year. Transport Minister Mark Bailey says, "we've got strong procedures to take
people out of the industry". Blair Davies, Taxi Council Queensland says "security cameras are very important
in a cab".

The story from last year said 153 drivers were charged with a criminal offence in 10 months, with 15 classified as serious. The current RTI response covers 15 months and lists 154 drivers charged, with 25 classified as serious.

Last year's HIB has been updated with new numbers and beefed up content, particularly around the definition of (serious) categories for driver disqualifying offences.

Seven News will be advised of the cost of access to this RTi material on 5 July.

For your attention.

# 29.06.23

# Hot Issues Brief – Criminal charges against taxi and booked hire drivers – 7 News Brisbane – RTI 3371

More than 38 million taxi and booked hire trips are undertaken annually, with the overwhelming majority taken safely and without incident.

About 20,800 taxi and booked hire licence holders work to transport passengers safely and the vast majority of drivers who were charged with a criminal offence did not commit the offence while driving a taxi or booked hire vehicle.

However, safety is our number one priority and that is why there are regulations that taxi, limousine and rideshare operators need to follow

when hiring a driver, and there are processes in place to ensure the safety of passengers:

- The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) conducts a criminal history check as part of the Booked Hire/Taxi Driver Authorisation, which a person must hold before they can drive for a taxi, limousine or rideshare operator.
- Queensland Police Service notifies TMR of any criminal charge against a taxi or booked hire driver and where there are grounds to do so, TMR suspends or cancels the person's Driver Authorisation as soon as possible.
- In cases where an operator notifies TMR of an incident, TMR immediately reports the incident to QPS.
- All taxis and rideshare vehicles that meet the relevant risk criteria must be fitted with approved security cameras for the safety of drivers and passengers.
- Approved security camera systems can be and have been used to prosecute offenders.

# **Background**

On May 4, 2023 personal i of the Seven Network lodged an RTI application requesting access to:

1.Spreadsheet/table of DA holders (taxi and booked hire drivers) who have been charged with a criminal offence since 1 January 2022.

2.Document/s (specifically documents to summarise the actual criminal charges and an overview of DA holders who have been charged) from 1 January 2022 relating to South East Queensland (Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast) taxi crivers or ride sharing services such as Uber, who have been charged with criminal offences.

Date range for request: 1 January 2022 to 4 May 2023.

A document comprised of 204 A4 pages was collated, and the access decision will be issued to the applicant on July 5, 2023.

The documents show that in the applicant's date range (1 January 2022 to 4 May 2023), there have been 154 instances of taxi, rideshare and limousine drivers being charged with a range of offences including - but not limited to - possession of drugs and weapons, arson, serious assault, domestic violence offences, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, sexual offences (including rape, indecent treatment of children) and fraud.

In the documents details are provided of offences committed by listed DA holders. The Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act 1994 (TOPTA) prescribes various offences as 'driver disqualifying offences.' There are three categories of driver disqualifying offences; Category A, Category B and Category C.

Category A - These are the most serious offences. They are when a person has been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for an offence, or is subject to an order or obligation under section 170(b) of the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000. A person who has been charged or convicted of a Category A offence is not eligible to apply for or hold DA. If the person has an active DA, TMR will immediately suspend or cancel the DA when notification of the offence is received.

Category B – Where the person is charged or has been convicted of a serious offence listed in the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000 and TOPTA, that is not considered a Category A disqualifying offence. Or has committed a Category A offence, is at least 18 years of age and no imprisonment is imposed. For this range of offences a person must provide a written case of exceptional circumstances in relation to the offence. If there is no exceptional circumstance DA may not be held. TMR will provide the DA holder with notice of the intent to suspend or cancel the DA.

Category C - These offences are of a less serious nature and are classed as either "high" range offences or "low" range offences depending on their classification in the relevant Act – the Criminal Code, Drugs Misuse Act or Weapons Act. TMR may consider taking action against the DA to provide notice of the intent to suspend the DA taking into account the type of offence and previous history of the DA holder.

The documents also include a spreadsheet listing Actions as 'Follow-up' and 'Finalised.' These are not actions taken by TMR against the DA holder and relate to the offences either still pending or being finalised in Magistrates Court.

It is anticipated the release of the documents will generate media coverage on the charges against taxi, limousine and rideshare drivers, and potentially pose questions about passenger safety.

## **ENDS**

## Cheers

Andy Christie
Senior Media Officer
Office of the Deputy Director-General | Translink Division
Department of Transport and Main Roads

P: 07 3338 4671 | M NR
Floor 1 | 61 Mary Street | Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 50 | Brisbane Qld 4001
andrew.christie@translink.com.au
www.translink.com.au
www.trnr.gld.gov.au



The Department of Transport and Main Roads acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways.

We also acknowledge their ancestors and Elders both past and present.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to reconciliation among all Australians.

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Pages 64 through 67 redacted for the following reasons:

Schedule 2 Part 2 - PTi processing document