

Proposal for in car safety equipment, CCTV and new taxi roof signs.



(L-R David Mc Guinness T.T.n.H., Gerard Macken Taxi Alliance of Ireland, Bobby Lynch Cork Taxi Council and Hugh Creegan Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation .N.T.A. offices) .

In October 2015 18 representatives from across Ireland met with the NTA regarding the proposal for New Roof signs and mandatory in car safety equipment to include cctv. The meeting took place in the National Transport Authorities offices. Present from the NTA were, Hugh Creegan director of transport investment and taxi regulation and Pat Byrne Chairperson of the taxi advisory committee as well as reps from throughout the country. On opening the meeting regarding the proposal for new roof signs and in car safety equipment to include cctv, reps asked the following “was this a proposal from the NTA and where had it originated”. Reps where informed “the proposal for new roof signs and safety equipment to include cctv had come from the industry during the review of taxis in 2012”.The NTA then informed that it was obliged to follow up this proposal with a submission process to both the industry and public.

The submission process began in July and ran until September 25th. Representative bodies countrywide encouraged members to sign submission forms to be returned before the deadline. A total of 1800 submissions were handed in to the NTA offices on September 25th. Drivers concerns ranged from the cost incurred in replacing roof signs, and the mandatory nature of in car cctv, which is not mandatory in any other business and is left to the discretion of the owner. Similar concerns ranged at the servicing of the proposed signs and the down time while waiting for repairs along with loss of earnings. I would take this opportunity to thank all reps and drivers countrywide who took part in the submission process and we would hope to have news on this proposal in late January. At a recent taxi advisory committee meeting it was relayed by the NTA that some 5000 submissions had been received. T.T.n.H.