Is-Seba' Skeda l-ġdida tintroduċi dritt annwali ta' awtorizzazzjoni bbażata fuq il-firxa ta' vjaġġi vjaġġati mill-vetturi kollha tas-servizz ta' ġarr ta' passiġġieri b'vetturi żgħar attivament reġistrati u li joperaw fuq is-servizz ta' pjattaforma intermedjarja.

Regolamenti tal-2026 li jemendaw ir-Regolamenti dwar is-Servizzi ta' Ġarr ta' Passiġġieri (hawn aktar 'il quddiem f'din it-Taqsima msejħa r-"regolamenti prinċipali")

Ir-regolament 3 tar-regolamenti emendatorji li jemenda r-regolament 62 tar-regolamenti prinċipali jirrikjedi li l-vetturi jkunu iggaraxxjati meta ma jkunux qed jintużaw, b'eċċezzjonijiet:

(a) vetturi M2 jistgħu jipparkjaw fit-triq sa 60 minuta (3 sigħat bejn 05:01AM u 16:59PM) bid-diska murija;

(b) vetturi M3 iridu jipparkjaw mill-inqas 15-il metru mill-aħħar bini residenzjali.

Nuqqas ta' wiri tad-diska għandu jirriżulta f'ammenda ta' mhux inqas minn €500. Ir-regolament 4 li jemenda r-regolament 108 tar-regolamenti prinċipali jintroduċi preskrizzjoni ta' sentejn (2) u jipprojbixxi t-tiġdid tal-liċenzja b'penalitajiet pendenti. L-Iskedi l-ġodda jistabbilixxu ammendi gradwali (€100–€500) u l-ispeċifikazzjonijiet tad-diska.

5. Sezzjonijiet konklużivi

Dawn ir-regolamenti għandhom jidħlu fis-seħħ fi żmien xahrejn mill-pubblikazzjoni tagħhom fil-Gazzetta.

Għal aktar informazzjoni jew kjarifikazzjonijiet dwar l-implimentazzjoni ta' dawn ir-regolamenti, jekk jogħġbok irreferi l-mistoqsijiet tiegħek lil Transport Malta permezz ta' email fuq info.tm@transport.gov.mt.

N.B. Dawn in-Noti ta' Spjegazzjoni mhumiex maħsuba biex ikunu deskrizzjoni eżawrjenti tal-istrument legali u lanqas sostitut tiegħu jew suppliment leġiżlattiv għall-istess. Dawn in-Noti ta' Spjegazzjoni mhumiex intiżi bħala deċiżjoni awtorevoli fuq l-interpretazzjoni tal-leġiżlazzjoni.

Id-29 ta' Mejju, 2026

No. 819

AUTHORITY FOR TRANSPORT IN MALTA

Explanatory Notes[1]

Amendments to the Light Passenger Transport Services and Vehicle Hire Services Regulations and the Passenger Transport Services Regulations

1. Introduction

By means of the amending regulations, the Authority for Transport in Malta ("Transport Malta") is amending the Light Passenger Transport Services and Vehicle Hire Services Regulations (S.L. 499.68), hereinafter referred to as "the LPTV regulations", as well as the Passenger Transport Services Regulations (S.L. 499.56), hereinafter referred to as "the PTS regulations". These amendments collectively constitute a comprehensive reform of the regulatory framework governing light passenger transport services in Malta.

2. Summary and background

The rationale behind these amendments is to comprehensively reform the light passenger transport services framework under the LPTV regulations, addressing market deficiencies including the lack of a level playing field between operators,

[1]These Explanatory Notes are in accordance with and for the purpose of article 3(2)(c) of the Small Business Act (Chapter 512 of the Laws of Malta).

inadequate differentiation between operator types, inadequate regulation of intermediary booking platforms, and urban traffic congestion. Parallel amendments to the PTS regulations introduce enhanced parking management and strengthened enforcement.

The proposed legislation intends to achieve:

(a) a tiered operator licensing structure (LPTV1, LPTV2, and SOV licences);

(b) new obligations on intermediary booking platforms including API integration, due diligence, and face recognition driver verification;

(c) protection of worker rights and fair employment standards;

(d) a two (2) year minimum driving experience requirement;

(e) on-street parking rules and tiered fines; and

(f) wheelchair accessibility requirements for LPTV2 operators.

3. Overview of the structure of the instruments

The amending regulations to the Light Passenger Transport Services and Vehicle Hire Services Regulations are made up of twenty-nine(29) regulations. The amending regulations to the Passenger Transport Services Regulations are made up of seven (7) regulations.

4. Commentary

Light Passenger Transport Services and Vehicle Hire Services (Amendment) Regulations, 2026 (hereinafter in this Part referred to as the "principal regulations")

Regulations 5 and 6 of the amending regulations (amending regulations 5 and 6 of the principal regulations) introduce a tiered operator licensing structure comprising three (3) categories: the LPTV1 licence (for operators of up to four (4) light passenger transport vehicles), the LPTV2 licence (for operators of five (5) or more light passenger transport vehicles), and the SOV licence (for operators of vehicles for special occasions). For LPTV2 and SOV licences, the licence shall be issued in the name of a natural person authorised to represent the undertaking, and no natural person or beneficial owner may hold an interest in more than one licenced undertaking. A Jobsplus compliance certificate is required for all licence types, and renewal documents shall be submitted within three (3) months of their issuance. Regulation 6 makes consequential amendments to the renewal provisions to reflect the new multiple licence framework.

Regulation 7 of the amending regulations (amending regulation 7 of the principal regulations) governs LPTV1 applications. New regulations 7A–7C introduced by regulation 8 set out LPTV2 and SOV application requirements, including a conduct certificate, declaration of exclusive garage use supported by a perit's report, tax compliance certificates, and a declaration of good financial standing. SOV applicants with four (4) or fewer vehicles are exempt from the garage permit requirement. The issuance of an SOV licence automatically precludes the operator from registering vehicles on any intermediary booking platform.

Regulation 11 of the amending regulations (amending regulation 17 of the principal regulations) extends the on-street parking limit to two (2) hours for LPTV1/LPTV2 vehicles between 05:01AM and 16:59PM, and imposes a 100-metre minimum distance from taxi ranks for SOV. Regulation 12 of the amending regulations (amending regulation 37 of the principal regulations) obliges LPTV2 operators with more than thirty (30) vehicles to maintain at least one accessible vehicle per fifty (50) light vehicles in their fleet.

Regulation 13 of the amending regulations introduces, by means of the new regulation 37A in the principal regulations, minimum rest obligations, including:

(a) an eight (8) hour rest period between continuous periods of paid driving;

(b) a maximum of twelve (12) consecutive hours of continuous paid driving;,

(c) a thirty (30) minute break every six (6) hours of driving; and

(d) one weekly rest period of twenty-four (24) consecutive hours.

Regulation 14 of the amending regulations (amending regulation 40 of the principal regulations) requires a two (2) year minimum driving experience with no more than six (6) penalty points during that time period.

Regulation 17 of the amending regulations (amending regulation 57 of the principal regulations) requires all drivers to be registered in Part III of the Register and empowers the Authority to suspend an operator's licence upon reasonable suspicion of unlawful employment.

Regulation 21 of the amending regulations introduces, by means of the new regulation 66A of the principal regulations, obligations for intermediary booking platforms including:

(a) API integration with the Authority's monitoring system;

(b) stronger due diligence on operators and drivers;

(c) annual documentation verification;

(d) prohibition on registering SOV or taxi licence holders;

(e) twenty-four (24) hour data transfer upon request by the Authority;

(f) face recognition driver verification at first daily log-in and periodically thereafter;

(g) a strict one to one (1:1) ratio subject to an administrative penalty of €1,200/month fee per excess vehicle; and

(h) to provide LPTV1 drivers with full destination and trip pricing information prior to driver acceptance.

Regulation 22 of the amending regulations (amending regulation 67 of the principal regulations) classifies breaches of regulations 58(1) and 37A as criminal offences with escalating penalties (€200 for a second offence; €1,000, a twelve (12) month suspension, and 50 penalty points for a third). Any driver exceeding the zero-alcohol limit shall have their tag suspended forthwith.

The new Seventh Schedule introduces an annual authorisation fee based on the range of trips made by all light passenger transport service vehicles actively registered and operating on the intermediary booking platform service.

Passenger Transport Services (Amendment) Regulations, 2026 (hereinafter in this Part referred to as the "principal regulations")

Regulation 3 which amends regulation requires all passenger transport vehicles to be garaged when not in use, with exceptions:

(a) M2 vehicles may park on-street for up to 60 minutes (3 hours between 05:01AM and 16:59PM) with the disc displayed;

(b) M3 vehicles shall park at least 15 metres from the last residential building. Failure to display the disc shall result in a fine of not less than €500. Regulation 4 which amends regulation 108 of the principal regulations introduces a two (2) year limitation period for penalty collection and bars licence renewal with outstanding penalties. The new Schedules establish tiered fines (€100–€500), and parking disc specifications.

5. Concluding sections

These regulations shall come into force within two (2) months from their publication in the Government Gazette.

For more information or clarification on the implementation of these regulations, kindly refer your queries to Transport Malta via email on info.tm@transport.gov.mt.

N.B. These Explanatory Notes are not intended to be an exhaustive description of the instrument nor a substitute thereof or a legislative supplement thereto. These Explanatory Notes do not purport to be an authoritative ruling on the interpretation of the legislation.

29th May, 2026