



Gladys Berejiklian MP

Minister for Transport

MEDIA RELEASE

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BUS CUSTOMERS TO BENEFIT FROM OUTER METROPOLITAN CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Minister for Transport Gladys Berejiklian today announced negotiations would soon begin with existing bus operators across the state's ten outer metropolitan bus service regions, to improve customer service and deliver better value for money for taxpayers.

Speaking today to NSW bus operators and industry suppliers at the 2013 BusNSW Management Seminar in Manly, Ms Berejiklian said ultimately bus customers would notice improved levels of customer service as a result of the negotiations.

"Under our new bus procurement strategy, we have adopted a competitive tender process for the Sydney Metro contracts, asking bus operators to show how they will deliver a better service and better value for money for taxpayers," Ms Berejiklian said.

"However, in recognition that many operators in outer metropolitan bus service regions have different operating conditions, we will soon begin direct negotiations with these current operators, rather than open a wider tender process.

"We are confident the existing bus operators in outer-metro areas will be able to demonstrate adequate ability to provide improved services and better value for money.

"If this proves not to be the case, the Government will then consider an open tender in that specific region."

Ms Berejiklian said Transport for NSW will communicate directly with operators in the ten outer metropolitan bus service regions about this process from September.

This includes operators in the Upper Hunter, Maitland, Port Stephens, Lake Macquarie, Newcastle, Gosford and Wyong, Central Coast, Blue Mountains, Keira and Wollongong.

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