

INFORMAL MEETING PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE

MINUTES

Thursday 10th September 2020

Virtual Platform

Present:

Cllr Hilary Fairclough (HF)	Chair (Chair)
Cllr Mudasir Dean (MD)	Executive Member
Kellie Hopkins (KH)	Assistant Director, Neighbourhood and Regulatory Services
Elizabeth Pritchard (EP)	Principal Licencing Officer
Patricia Clyne (PC)	Principal Licensing Officer
Mohammed Akhtar (MA)	BPHA
Yasif Khan (YK)	BPHA
Charles Oakes (CO)	BBHA

Apologies:

Eddie Shah (ES)	BTDA
Joe Fox (JF)	Principal Engineer
PC Andrew Vernon	Greater Manchester Police

1.	Apologies
	Above.
2.	Minutes / actions from last meeting
	Agreed.
3.	Minimum Licensing Standards Consultation
	CO questions over whether Greater Manchester would combine like TFL. KH advised very different set ups. Concerns raised over drivers licensed by other authorities. PAC advised these standards will bring all GM authorities onto same page. PAC will be holding a virtual meeting for reps. to outline proposals.
4.	Clean Air Consultation
	KH discussed the financial pros and cons. The funding is yet to be sorted. Trade reps asked to encourage drivers to complete survey. CO asked if evidence had been given to Bolton before was included in charge zone. CF confirmed under consultation, looking at numerous things. YK asked for paper copy of survey for drivers. PAC confirmed consultation plan includes paper documentation. CO asked if would be available in other languages, KH confirmed just in English due to diverse community to many different languages. Discussion over the improvement of air quality over lockdown, but now as things return to normal more cars on road, less people using public transport.
5.	Digital Update

	<p>PAC discussed the new online forms and the difficulties being experienced. New form aiming to be in Spring 2021 which will be more streamlined.</p> <p>MD asked for trade feedback – they advised it's moving forward well, some issues with the trade completing the forms but they will help where they can.</p> <p>Licensing asked for issues to be fed back then can be looked into.</p> <p>PAC discussed once libraries back open they offer schemes to assist in computer usage, may be of interest to some drivers.</p>
6.	Covid19 Update
	<p>EP advised of hospitality being closed due to local lockdown changes and letter been sent out to all affected businesses. This will mean a reduction in trade. Self-employment support details available on government website.</p>
7.	Update on train station
	<p>PC gave JF apologies and read out information provided. Two designated bays will be given alongside customer parking for private hire vehicles. 20 mins short stay. Hackney rank to remain as is.</p> <p>MA advised they had requested 4 bays.</p> <p>CO requested to see details of bays from JF and how they are going to be sign posted and restricted. Has concerns over private hire plying for hire.</p> <p>KH confirmed will be monitored and added to enforcement rounds.</p> <p>Action – JF to share plans and more details with trade and look into if 4 bays can be allocated.</p>
8.	Police and Council Not Helping the Taxi Trade
	<p>YK gave details of incident that was reported to police, but no action taken. PAC advised PC Vernon had emailed advising YK to chase investigating officer.</p>
9.	Uber Documents
	<p>MA/YK advised of issues with UBER accepting documents. PAC explained that when drivers upload documents, they are overriding the documents we send.</p> <p>MA advised that UBER has said documents have to be provided at UBER office to have picture taken with a blue frame. PAC not aware of this.</p> <p>Action – PAC to speak to UBER.</p>
10.	Face Coverings
	<p>PAC discussed communication sent to trade regarding face coverings being highly recommended to be worn.</p> <p>YK advised until it is made mandatory operators will not do it.</p> <p>PAC confirmed UBER have made it mandatory, but we cannot make other operators make it mandatory.</p>

11.	Nelson Square
	CO wanted update on rank agreement from front of Nelson Square. At previous meeting was discussed about having a walk round with highways to look at ranks but on hold due to current climate.
12.	A.O.B
	None

Next meeting: 10th December 2020