

LICENSING AND TRADE REP MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 14th January 2021
Virtual Platform

Present:

Kellie Hopkins (KH)	Assistant Director, Neighbourhood and Regulatory Services
Elizabeth Pritchard (EP)	Principal Licencing Officer
Patricia Clyne (PC)	Principal Licensing Officer
Ben Brookfield (BB)	Greater Manchester Police
Mohammed Akhtar (MA)	BPHA
Yasif Khan (YK)	BPHA
Charles Oakes (CO)	BBHA
Eddie Shah (ES)	BTDA

1.	Apologies
	N/A
2.	Request for update regarding dual badges for Hackney drivers
	ES requested update regarding dual badges for hackney drivers. PC advised it will be looked into with the new conditions and development of the MLS.
3.	Enquiry regarding concessions available to drivers for MOT testing fees, badges etc
	ES asked about any concessions available to drivers for MOT testing fees, badges etc PC moved question to discuss at point 9 of the agenda.
4.	Request for update regarding the bins at the train station
	ES explained public rubbish bins were removed from the train station and have never been replaced, rubbish built up on taxi rank and looks a mess. KH explained not council land, owned by TFGM. Action - PC had shared the enquiry with Joe Fox in Highways & Engineering and was awaiting a response.
5.	Taxi bay's at train station
	YK requested updated on the drop off/pick up zone for private hire vehicles at the train station. How many bays and what is the timescale to have them done? PC had sent an enquiry to Joe Fox and will share one received a response. A plan had been shared of the proposal pre lockdown 2020.

	<p>Concerns were raised regarding the changes to the train station and the effects on the hackney carriage rank and the introduction of private hire bays, KH noted concerns and advised would feedback. PC confirmed if needed a separate meeting could be arranged with colleagues from Highways Section to discuss matter further.</p> <p>Action – PC to obtain information from Joe Fox.</p>
6.	Licence fees
	<p>YK wanted an update on the fees and when they will be changed. PC confirmed the work has started and from 1st January 2021 officers are time recording all work. Will take time to collect data and do calculations.</p>
7.	Imported vehicles.
	<p>YK wanted to know the requirements needed to put an imported vehicle on fleet.</p> <p>PC to look at policy but vehicle requires an SVA/IVA to ensure meets safety standards. Each vehicle needs to be looked at individually to see if meets requirements. PC offered to look at any particular makes or models. YK asked for Prius and Prius plus to be looked into.</p> <p>YK also asked for first grant application turn over time. PC to look into and feedback.</p> <p>Action – PC to look into requirements for imported vehicles and obtain first grant timescale.</p> <p>Outcome – First Grant timescale is currently three working days once a completed application has been accepted and all documentation has been received.</p> <p>All imported vehicles require an Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA). Contact the Driving and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) for further information on IVA - enquiries@vosa.gov.uk or telephone: 0300 123 9000.</p>
8.	Clean Air Plan Survey
	<p>PC advised there was a survey that is going to be shared regarding the clean air plan and needs to be completed.</p> <p>EP discussed meeting held regarding electrical charging points and how they want to discuss with trade reps. They will be in contact end of January and March.</p> <p>PC requested all reps get involved as they are the voices of the drivers.</p>
9.	Government Self-employed Support Scheme
	<p>EP advised the self-employed scheme has been extended and money increased. Details had been shared on email earlier in the week. Highly recommend all drivers to apply if not already. Also included on the email was a link to the updated government guidance.</p> <p>Questions were raised regarding funding from council to drivers as other councils had awarded grants.</p>

	Action – PC/EP to speak to other councils for guidance, MA to share details of other Councils to assist.
10.	A.O.B
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC introduced BB to the trade reps. • YK asked what the meeting with operators on 28th January was regarding. PC advised general meeting to give opportunity for operators to raise any questions or issues. Two meetings to be held one with the operators of 10 vehicle plus and one for 9 vehicles and below. Minutes will be taken and shared with all operators and published on the Council webpages. • PC requested any agenda items are provided in advance of the meetings and before the cut of date, which was provided to all. This will allow time for questions or research to be completed before the meetings. This way answers may be able to be brought to the meetings. • YK asked about the law surrounding wearing face masks and how to deal with customers who refuse. BB acknowledge that people say they are exempt and do not have to provide proof. As long as driver is wearing a mask and they have at least asked their passenger to wear one then it is ok. • MA advised that he has seen a lot of vehicles not displaying the face mask stickers that they delivered. Action - PC/EP to pick up at operator meeting. • PC reminded reps all communications we send out are available to them and all drivers on Bolton Council website under Taxi Trade updates.

Next meeting: 8th April 2021 at 6.30pm