

INFORMAL MEETING PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE

MINUTES

Thursday 31st March 2022

Virtual Platform

Present:

Cllr Hilary Fairclough (HF)	Chair (Chair)
Cllr Maureen Flitcroft (MF)	Vice Chairman
Patricia Clyne (PC)	Licensing and Enforcement Manager
Lisa Timmins (LT)	Senior Licensing Officer
Joe Fox (JF)	Principal Engineer Highways
Andrew Bolan (AB)	Head of Regulatory Services
Mohammed Akhtar (MA)	BPHA
Yasif Khan (YK)	BPHA
Charles Oakes (CO)	BBHA
Eddie Shah (ES)	BTDA

Apologies:

Jon Dyson Director of Place

1.	Apologies
	Above.
2.	Minutes / actions from last meeting
	No actions and agreed.
3.	Tax Conditionality
	LT advised new HMRC legislation regarding drivers and operators to provide a 'Tax Check Code' at point of application commences on 04.04.22. and confirmed communications have been sent to drivers to advise. CO asked if it was mandatory which LT confirmed. MA asked when it had to be provided and LT advised at point of application.
*	Highways
	JF asked for any questions from the reps re highways. CO asked how the station was working and if highways had received any complaints. JF advised not aware of any issues or complaints. CO commented on the size of ranks and the increase in size of hackney vehicles. JF advised the ranks are marked out as one long bay not individual bays, some do have signs stating how many can rank up and these may need to be looked at if not as many can fit on. Action – JF to provide figures for current rank provision. CO asked about rank provision for charging. JF confirmed at final stages of design and installation. JF asked what optimal position is for charging on the rank. CO

	<p>advised rear but commented not sure if appropriate on rank although handy and needs looking into.</p> <p>YK asked if pick up and drop off is still available at front of train station. JF advised no, need to use the assigned bays in the car park.</p> <p>MA raised issues with traffic lights on Thynne street junction causing back log, filter has been removed. JF advised TFGM model, signal team decide best set up.</p> <p>Three areas raised as concerns-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thynne Street Junction 2. China Gardens to Derby Street turning right 3. Derby Street to Deane Road <p>Action – JF to look into and feedback</p>
*	<p>GMP</p>
	<p>PC advised licensing will be sharing hate crime information for all drivers following meeting with GMP.</p> <p>BB discussed new concept starting up named 'taxi watch'. Operators to meet once a month to discuss issues such as problem areas, customers etc. Not all operators currently on board. BB to speak with operators based in Westhoughton and Horwich.</p> <p>CO requested Hackneys are included, BB agreed.</p> <p>ES raised issue of youths on train station in evenings between 5pm-8pm. Kicking vehicles, throwing eggs, spitting, opening doors.</p> <p>Action – BB to speak to neighbourhood team</p>
4.	<p>MLS Stage 1 implementation update</p>
	<p>LT advised:</p> <p><u>DBS update service</u> All DBS completed from 01.01.22 have now signed up to the update service as part of the renewal. Currently training up two members of staff to complete project to get all drivers on update service by the end of 2022.</p> <p><u>Driver conditions</u> Have been circulated to all drivers and uploaded onto the web.</p> <p><u>Driver medical examinations</u> Looking into new medical form to mimic DVLA medical form (D4) to make it easier for GP's to follow.</p> <p><u>Driver training – CSE/Safeguarding</u> Training has recommenced online. Emailed out to all drivers to complete by 31.12.22. Anyone who completed face to face training at Bolton Arena pre pandemic does not need to resit.</p> <p><u>Dual Badges</u> Work will be starting to look at dual badges shortly.</p>
5.	<p>Digital Update</p>

	<p>LT advised payments are now live for the online service and applicants are no longer required to ring in to make payment. LT requested any issues with the new service to be fed back to her.</p> <p>PC discussed digital courses available at the library to assist with computer skills are available.</p>
6.	Vehicle Spot Checks
	<p>PC gave an update on recent spot checks completed on 01.03.22 & 23.03.22. In the two days 19 vehicles were checked. 7 suspensions were issued for missing livery, badges, fire extinguishers, tyres.</p> <p>GMP issued 5 tickets for not wearing seat belts. PC asked reps if a message could be shared across their channels with the trade of the importance of wearing seat belt when no passengers in the vehicle.</p>
7.	A.O.B
	None

Next meeting: Trade and Licensing Unit – May date TBC.

Trade and Executive Members – July date TBC.