

Department of Environment & Sport

Newsletter

Issue 30 April 2015

Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Service

Welcome to our latest edition in which we cover the details of the new ticket machine; and much more. Please read on for details!

The Licensing Team

Bank Holiday Closure Periods

The Service will be shut on Monday 4th May and Monday 25th May for the May Bank Holidays

Please remember that when we reopen on the Tuesday's after bank holidays we open at 9.30am

If you have an urgent matter or you know that your plate or badge expires on the Bank Holidays please contact us urgently on taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk

Compliments

The service is delighted to announce that it has received a compliment towards the driver of one of the Hackney Carriages.

The driver of the vehicle showed great road awareness when safely negotiating a meeting with a local cyclist. The cyclist wished thanks to be passed on to the driver stating '**he is a credit to the Hackney Carriage Profession**'

Well Done!!

Abseiling 'Team Shearbridge'

A recent charity event in aid of the Lord Mayor's appeal saw a team of staff including our enforcement officer Steve Knighton abseil down Jacob's Well Building. Many drivers were kind enough to contribute when they visited Shearbridge. A total of over £500 was raised.

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the effort! Your generosity is appreciated!

Enforcement Updates

Joint working – Enforcement have been working with the Council Warden's in joint operations across the city centre. Drivers were spoken to about a wide variety of issues including, not displaying of door decals; parking issues; defective tyres and possible 'plying for hire'.

There have been and continue to be a number of operation across the district with our Policing partners. These include multi agency roadside checks as well as evening and night time patrols with the neighbourhood policing teams.

Tyres – During recent enforcement operations, 3 drivers have been reported for having 'illegally worn' tyres.

All Drivers are reminded that they must be carrying out and recording daily vehicle safety checks. Information can be obtained from your Operator.

Operators – as well as your random vehicle checks you should ensure your drivers are carrying out and recording their daily checks.

Advertising – Operators please note: You should not refer to 'taxis'; 'cabs' or 'Hackney Carriages' in your advertising materials. Please refer to page 39, condition 2.5e and page 41, condition 2.11 in your conditions book.

School Contracts – Any vehicle that carries out a school contract must carry a breakdown kit (including warning triangle), torch and batteries please. These are essential requirements.

Contact Details	Opening Hours
Licensing Officers – 01274 434316	Tues 9.30 – 3pm, Mon & Wed - Fri 8.30 – 3pm
Workshop – 01274 433587	Monday – Friday 7.45am – 3.00pm
Email – taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk	

Ticket Machine at Shearbridge HC/PH Service Counter

After a number of delays due in part to IT failure and the problems with the company supplying the hardware and software the Service is delighted to announce that the new Ticket machine is up and running.

The service is now promoting to all Operators and Drivers that the best way to visit us is by making a pre booked appointment.

We now see pre booked appointments at 2 out of the 4 counters. Within the coming weeks that will increase to pre booked appointments at 3 out of the 4 counters.

Please make an appointment to visit us by emailing taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk whereby officers will ring you back you with details of your appointment.

If you make an appointment you will be given a 6 digit code, it will be your birthday, for example 151277.

When you come for your appointment please press 'check in' and enter the 6 digit code. The machine will issue you a ticket. Please then take a seat in the waiting area.

Your ticket number will be displayed on the big screen and you will be directed to go to the counter when your appointment is called.

Online booking/payment – Coming Soon!

The next phase of our development is to be able to offer licence holders the chance to book online for appointments at the counter.

In addition to this we should also be able to offer an online payments link.

This will enable licence holders to pay online for a number of services.

These changes will save people having to come down to Shearbridge to queue or save people having to ring the service to book and pay.

Updates on these upcoming features will be broadcast via the website

www.bradford.gov.uk/taxiandprivatehire

Trade Rep Associations

If any of you have points/comments you would like to share then please see your trade reps and they will be able to raise them on your behalf.

Association contact details are on the website:

www.bradford.gov.uk/taxiandprivatehire

Tour de Yorkshire

The District has been chosen to host a stage of the inaugural Tour de Yorkshire. This is an event that promises to be a highlight of the sporting summer.

The race, which will be **held on 1-3 May (Friday to Sunday)**, is expected to become a flagship cycling event in the UK and an outstanding cycle race in the international calendar, including the participation of top international teams. It will be broadcast live on national TV and throughout Europe. The race will visit **Bradford on Sunday 3 May, and will pass through the district in mid-afternoon**. Visit the below website for more details:

<http://www.bradford.gov.uk/tourdeyorkshire>

Contact details

If you would like more information about this newsletter or would like to provide an article for possible inclusion in a future newsletter, please contact:

Matthew Bibby, Licensing Support Officer:

taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk

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