

Department of Environment & Sport Newsletter

August 2016 **Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Service**



Bingley Music Live

Bingley Music Live is a popular medium sized festival held in Myrtle Park Bingley and is supported by Bradford Council. As in previous years the hackney carriage and private hire licensing service will be working during the weekend to give support to the organisers as well as other partner agencies including police, parking services and emergency management team.

As this is a large event for the district there are extra temporary traffic regulation orders that will be implemented along with temporary parking and loading restrictions.

- No Stopping
- No dropping off of customers
- No picking up of customers
- No U turns

These restrictions are for the length of Main St between Leonard Street and Park Road.

- ❖ There is a designated drop off and pick up area for all licensed vehicles at the top of Ferncliffe road on Victoria car park by the recycling bins.
- ❖ There will be a temporary hackney carriage stand 6 PM to 11 PM 2nd to 4th September on Bradford Rd outside and opposite the police station.
- ❖ There are loading restrictions on Wellington Road please take note of the signs this will include no waiting off the rank.

Online Payments – Coming Soon

We aim to deliver the online payments option in the coming weeks. It should be possible for you to pay for some of your transactions online. Lots more information will be circulated about online payments in the coming weeks.

Paying online is an easy, hassle free way to pay. This means it is more efficient and less time consuming for you. Please note that when you do pay online you always have the card holder's permission to do so.

Operators - Please email taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk by 23rd September if you would like officers to arrange to visit your base and show you online payments.

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	

Licensing Updates

DBS Update Service – the condition for electronic DBS submission and for all drivers to use the update service is a condition that was passed at Regulatory & Appeals Committee, November 2015. The Council were testing the use of electronic forms but at this time we will not be implementing the electronic form requirement. We will however be implementing the DBS update service condition.

From 1st October 2016 every person who completes a DBS form at Shearbridge must at the same appointment sign up to the update service and you will need an email account to do this.

Please see the below 3 steps which show you how to access the internet and then what to type in order to find information on how to set up an email account.

Step 1: Open the internet and go to a search engine such as Google

Step 2: Type 'how to set up an email account' in the search engine

Step 3: Follow one of the suggested email account links and follow their step by step guides.

Operators - Please email taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk by 16th September if you would like officers to arrange to visit your base and show you the DBS Update service.

Enforcement update

As you are fully aware from previous meetings and information circulated, elected members introduced a new licensing condition on 17th February 2016 regarding the use of out of district drivers/vehicles. The Condition was introduced to ensure that when a Bradford customer made a booking they could be assured that the vehicle and driver being provided met the standards required for licensing within BMDC.

A six month lead in period was provided to ensure that all Operators had plenty of time to introduce the changes required and the Condition came into force on 17th August 2016. The key requirements of the Condition are:

- Any operator using out of district drivers need to have a separate booking line.
- The booking line needs to have a pre-recorded message informing customer that they are being offered a vehicle/driver which is not licensed by Bradford.
- Separate booking records need to be kept for bookings involving non Bradford licensed drivers/vehicles.

A further two conditions are already in place from January 2015

- A letter from the drivers insurance stating they are aware that the driver is working in Bradford
- The driver and Operator are in possession of a vehicle safety check certificate from a vehicle main dealer.

Since 17th August, licensing enforcement officers have been conducting compliance checks against the above and have so far identified 7 x Operators who are non-compliant. This has resulted in the issuing of seven 21 day suspension notices, i.e. notices which notify the Operator that his licence to operate will be removed in 21 days.

Plying for hire

A recent court case against a licensed private hire driver regarding plying for hire has resulted in the driver paying fines of in excess of £1300 and being penalised with 8 points. Please refer to point 2.16 in the licensing conditions booklet for information on plying for hire and remember that it is an offence to do so.

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 & Systems Officer: taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk