

Hackney Carriage Association Meeting

Wednesday 23rd November 2022

Officers Present:

Carol Stos (CS)	Licensing Service Manager
Tanya Smith (TS)	Licensing Officer Service Support

Trade Representatives Present:

Sagheer Rehman	Bradford Hackney Carriage Taxi Trade Association
Tahir Riaz	Hackney Carriage Owners and Drivers Association
Shabbir Master	Hackney Carriage Owners and Drivers Association
Mohammed Khan	Hackney Carriage Owners and Drivers Association

1) Introduction

Carol Stos opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

2) Outstanding Actions

- Unmet demand update
Final draft has been approved and will be available soon.
- Send Ian's details to the Trade Representatives so they can contact him and answer his questions around the rank at Bradford Interchange.
Done.

5) Agenda Points

Point 1 – Dual Badges

Q) Some other authorities are offering dual badges to drivers. As an association we are advocating this be implemented in Bradford as well.

This is particularly necessary for the Hackney carriage badge holders. If their cars breakdown they have no alternative to drive another licensed vehicle unless it's a Hackney carriage and these are not always available whereas private hire cars are readily available.

A) To help the trade who would like both licences to “fast track” driver applications however all our checks will need to be completed before a licence/badge can be issued. There are significant differences in the compliance and legislation of the two working rules and legal regulations, it is important that drivers understand the differences that Hackney Carriage and Private Hire can do. We will set up a fast track process for any drivers who want a Hackney Carriage badge or vice versa.

Point 2 – Cost of living crisis

Q) There is a cost of living crisis, is there something the licensing service can do to help during this time?

A) Please find below links which are there to help people who are struggling
The service is unable to reduce fees but have not raised fees at all in recent years and believe our fees are very competitive against surrounding councils.

Cost of Living Support

[Cost of Living Bradford](#)

[Cost of Living Payment](#)

[General Benefits Information](#)

Debt & Money Advice

[Money Helper](#)

[Citizens Advice](#)

[Step Change](#)

[National Debt Line](#)

Energy & Water Bills

[Warm Spaces](#)

[Warm Homes, Healthy People](#)

Support with Food

[Food Resources](#)

[Healthy Start - NHS](#)

Benefits & & Help with Essentials

[Discretionary Housing Payments](#)

[Housing Benefits & Council Tax Reduction](#)

[Assisted Purchase Scheme](#)

Q) Tariff 2 needs to be 10% higher than tariff 1.

Tariff one comes up to £10, tariff 2 comes up to £11, tariff 3 should come up at £16.

- A) We need you to tell us if there is a mistake on the tariff. Please provide more specific information and the service will work with the trade to take appropriate action.

Point 4- Stone Throwing

Q) Can we set up a point of contact for reporting this type of behaviour as it is a regular occurrence in some areas.

A) We have been asked for an update from Sgt Sam Brown who I believe met with Tahir on this previously. Bradford Council have the antisocial behaviour and youth services working around the affected area. All incidents need to be reported to the police when they happen.

Q) We have reported it to the police and no action has been taken,

A) They have increased their patrols around the affected areas. We will pass the details of the person who you will need to report your incidents to. Please ensure you state that you are a Taxi or Private Hire when reporting incidents. The link for reporting these incidents is below.

[How we can tackle anti-social behaviour | West Yorkshire Police](#)

Q) In the event that someone asks to drive to one of these areas, can you refuse the job?

A) If you feel threatened, then you have every right to refuse a job to these areas. You can suggest to the passenger that you will travel to an area surrounding this, but not into the area where you feel at risk.

Point 5 – Wheelchair accessible vehicles and fees

Q) Can an additional fee be taken for loading a wheelchair, and what about the time it takes to load a wheelchair? We are getting people who cannot climb into our vehicles because they are too high. Can we have a percentage of vehicles WAV and a percentage Non-WAV?

A) The law states that you cannot charge more for an accessible journey. The meter fares should be calculated to take account of the whole of the service you provide to all of your customers.

[Disability awareness | Bradford Council](#)

The service will be responding separately to the trades request for a mixture of wav and non-wav vehicles.

6) Close

Thank you to everyone for attending this meeting. Please send feedback on how you think it went as this is something we would be looking at continuing in the future.

7) Actions from Meeting

1. Request for discussion so that trade have ranks in key locations including the Morley Street Rank.
Trade. Please provide a person to be the point of contact for Rank discussions with Highways so that the two parties can agree requirements in the future.
2. Update the Trade around the Unmet Demand Survey once finalised.
Service. Provide the update.
3. Why have the bus lane cameras on Market Street and Broadway moved?
Service. Provide a response.
4. Tariff increase.
Trade Work on requirements which cover the whole costs of the work carried out and feed back to the service.
5. Wheelchair information to be sent to the trade again.
Included above.

8) Date of New Meeting

We will confirm the date of the next meeting and whether this will be held via a Teams Webinar or at Shearbridge Depot via email.