

Department of Environment & Sport

Newsletter

Issue 25 September 2014 Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Service

Welcome to our latest Newsletter. In this edition items include welcoming our new enforcement officer, updates on recent changes and expressing thanks to the trade. Please read on for details!

The Licensing Team

Thanks to HC/PH Trade

The service would like to express it's thanks to the trade for their patience and understanding during the recent 2 week closure.

We highlight as a service we have also dealt with all urgent queries that were brought to our attention by the trade during this period.

The creation of a 4th customer counter improves the service we can now offer you.

Mechanics Workshop - Drivers

Starting on Wednesday 15th October there will be the opportunity for vehicle owners or drivers to call in to see the mechanics to ask any questions. The session will be run on a 'drop-in' basis initially whilst we assess how many visitors attend.

These sessions will be run on a fortnightly basis and will be between 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

Local Telephone Codes

As of 1st October everyone will be required to use the local STD code when making a phone call. This includes when using landlines. This means, for example, all Bradford numbers now have to use 01274 and all Keighley numbers 01535 followed by the telephone number.

You might wish to consider reflecting this on your appropriate advertising materials.

Proposed Strike Action

As some of you may know, there is a planned strike day on Tuesday 14th October.

If the strike goes ahead as planned this might affect the service as we may have members of staff who take strike action.

We will keep you updated within the next 2 weeks but suggest at this time that if your visit is not essential you do not visit us that day.

DBS - Delays

DBS are currently experiencing delays with a high percentage of their applications. This means it is taking more than 8 weeks for some drivers to get the DBS forms back. If you need a new DBS completing in order to get your badge renewal then please come down 2 months before your DBS expires

Private Hire - Bradford Interchange

Please be aware that when you exit Bradford Interchange you must turn right if you are a Private Hire Vehicle.

There have been some complaints about Private Hire Vehicles turning left. Left turn is for Buses and Hackney Carriage vehicles only.

Our colleagues in the Police have been aware of the issues.

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	

Vehicle Tax Changes - From 1 October 2014 the paper tax disc will no longer be issued and won't need to be displayed on a vehicle.

We have been asked by our colleagues at the DVLA to remind you of the following.

From 1 October 2014, you will still need to tax your vehicle but you won't get a taxi disc.

From 1 October 2014, the paper tax disc will no longer need to be displayed on a vehicle windscreen. If you have a tax disc with any months left to run after this date, it can be removed & destroyed.

Buying or Transferring a Vehicle

Also, from 1 October 2014 vehicle tax will no longer be transferred with the vehicle. If a valid tax disc is displayed on the windscreen then it should be removed and destroyed.

When DVLA is informed of the sale/transfer, the registered keeper will automatically get a refund for any full calendar months left on the tax. The buyer will need to get new tax before the vehicle is used. This can be done 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, online or by phone or at a Post Office branch that deals with vehicle tax. Buyers will be able to tax using the new keeper supplement of the vehicle registrations certificate (V5C logbook).

If the seller doesn't have the logbook, the buyer can still go to the Post Office who can help them apply for a logbook at the same time as taxing their vehicle.

More detailed information on the changes can be found at: www.gov.uk/dvla/nomoretaxdisc

Staff Changes

We would like to introduce you all to our latest new recruit, Sara Poulter.

Sara joins the existing team of enforcement officers and has previously spent a number of years working in the Fraud and Council Tax Services.

No Smoking!

We highlight the importance of adhering to your licensing standards and conditions, especially whilst visiting Shearbridge Depot.

Earlier this week a member of our enforcement team saw a driver smoking in his vehicle whilst parked in the visitor parking bays. This driver will now be prosecuted for his offence.

Darker Night Use Your Lights

Enforcement Officers, whilst on patrol have noticed vehicles are driving around with faulty lights. This is a reminder to drivers that as we approach the longer darker nights to check all their lights in accordance with the daily vehicle check sheet.

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

Contact details

If you would like more information about this newsletter, please contact:

Matthew Bibby, Licensing Support Officer:
taxi.testing@bradford.gov.uk

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