



June 5th 2010

# Newsletter

As the Taxi Working Group seems surrounded by rumours of disbanding and as the Council do not supply the trade with very much information, I thought it an idea to use a newsletter as a way of informing the trade of what's going on.

## THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010

### DECISIONS:-

**Fares & Charges:** the recommended increase was approved SUBJECT to public notice to allow objections. If objections are received, the matter goes back to Committee.

**Revised Conditions for HC/PHVs:** deferred pending full consultation with **all** operators and drivers.

**Testing Station Licensing Regime:** deferred pending full consultation.

**Knowledge Test for Drivers:** Approved

**Extension of Water Street rank, Rhyl:** Approved BUT subject to public notice allowing objections.

**Regulation & Enforcement of HC/PHV Drivers:** Deferred until further research into legislation.

The above is taken from notes made at the meeting; official minutes will be provided by DCC in due course - check the council website for news.

I have issued Press Releases which have been printed in local newspapers. This is one way



of catching the attention of the Council, especially catching the attention of the Licensing Committee. Let me know if there is anything you think needs bringing to the attention of the public by way of a Press Release.

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*If the council will not listen to us, and continue to act suspiciously illegal, they will have to listen to a major general union (GMB). Ask me for more news on this.*

Check GMB website [www.gmb.org.uk](http://www.gmb.org.uk) for news on taxi cases.



Through the Working Group, we asked for useful HC/PHV information to be available via

DCC website. This was brought up in March, and we were told it was in hand – 3 months on and the HC/PHV pages remain bereft, deceased, demise of information.

*Perhaps we can have a Norwegian Blue Book!*

You may note all other pages in Licensing are full of information for users.

What would be of assistance is to be able to print application forms, conditions, a list a ranks etc. I think this could make life easier for us and the licensing office.

I have asked the questions, and await a reply.

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If you are being told by Officers to do things which you think are not legal or are being intimidated, or treated badly, - let me know as soon as you can –

Mobile 07788825661

Email [chris\\_122756@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chris_122756@yahoo.co.uk)



### Has your photo expired?

The photocard of your DVLA licence expires after 10 years (as your appearance may have changed in that time).

It may be the case that any expired photos render your whole licence invalid. Please check the dates and if yours photocard has expired, (No. 4(b) on the card) renew it before you are caught out at hc/phv driver renewal time.



Remember, if you are a disabled driver, check with the DVLA as to your entitlement to a free tax disc. In 2004 it was DVLA policy that a disabled driver, when using a vehicle of business purposes, which you are doing, can be issued with a free tax disc.

We know the common sign above stands for disabled, but the term ‘disability’ covers a multitude of things, not just wheelchairs.

### It's worth checking - Tel: 0300 790 68010 for advice



The legality of the [fee schedule](#), is being examined, although this is a comprehensive task bound in legal

constraints.



The legality of the decision to [deregulate](#) is being looked at and again this is bound by legal constraints

and cannot be reproduced in an open newsletter.

For any project to be managed properly and effectively, it needs feedback from those affected. Let me know if we are doing a good job, bad job, what can we do better?

If you have any concerns to be raised, ideas, suggestions or the like let me know.

It has been rumoured that the Working Group has disbanded. We haven't got the time to waste in trying to organise another group. We need time to work together for the benefit of all – [democracy](#).

If you are not aware, the Planning and Public Protection Enforcement Protocol states,

## 4. AUTHORISATION OF OFFICERS

4.1 Only officers who are suitably trained, qualified or have relevant experience will be authorised to carry out investigation and take enforcement action.

4.2 Individual officers' authorisations are reviewed on a regular basis.

4.3 Officers are required to show their authorisations on demand.

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If faced with an enforcement officer claiming they are from the council and they do not have ID, or refuse to show you any ID, can they really be from the Council???

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### CONFUSED?!

Although we have been told the byelaws are lost, and the blue book is not enforceable, at the Licensing Committee Meeting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> it was claimed the byelaws had been found, and current conditions were repeatedly referred to.

### Show us the rules!

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 The next Taxi Working Group will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> June. Any news and we will let you know.

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How's this for an age



limit? The superb HL from 1932. Photo rights acknowledged: ltva.co.uk