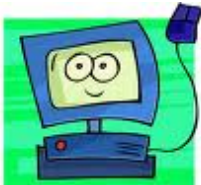


Newsletter

Please note: in this Newsletter the word TAXI includes PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES unless specifically precluded by law.



Please remember, the website at www.d-t-n.co.uk is managed by a

licensee for the benefit of the HC/PHV trade. You can post questions, news and views. You can answer questions; with over 260 hackneys and 200+ drivers, there is a mountain of knowledge to be aired and shared.

There are links to external sites; DfT, DVLA and VCA and DCC for your use. If you have any suggestions, please mail Clive at clive@c-cabs.com or Chris at chris.122756@yahoo.co.uk

Members of the Taxi Working Group, Chris and Dave W, and Jock have been writing to the Council as follows:-

1st July - to Ian Hearle – Head of Corporate Governance (you may remember Mr. Hearle as being in charge of Licensing some years ago) requesting a sensible answer as to the legality of the Blue Book and the progress on the treasure hunt for the Byelaws.

REPLY 9th July - A reply has been received telling us the matter is being investigated by Mr. Hearles' Principal Solicitor.

2nd July - to Councillor Sharon Frobisher – Lead Member for Environment (this is the Directorate which Licensing comes under) about licence fees.

REPLY 8th July - a reply has been received telling us Cllr. Frobisher has asked Graham Boase to respond and to keep her informed.

3rd July - to Councillor Bellis about the proposed 'licensing' of testing stations questioning why such a service has not gone out to tender.

No reply has yet been received and a reminder has been posted.

4th July – to DCC Passenger Transport asking why HC/PHVs are not mentioned in the DCC web-pages for passenger transport when the Night Rider scheme is mentioned.

REPLY 9th July – a reply was received stating the content of the passenger transport web-pages are constraint by national guidelines. "The Night Rider scheme is run by volunteers **usually** with vehicles with a seating capacity of more than 8. As such the scheme does not lend itself to the commercial sector. The Council does offer and has offered work to taxi operators in fulfilling local transport-type work. This may increase under the terms of Section 53 of the Local Transport Act of 2008."

5th July – to Development Control regarding the provision or lack of, a taxi rank within or near to the new Tesco development in Prestatyn.

REPLY – 8th July - a reply has been made – “The issue of a taxi rank provision at the bottom of the High Street in an area off the new railway bridge has been discussed. This will need to be shown within a new planning application for the retail scheme which we expect around September of this year.”

We will continue to watch this closely and I’m sure many of you will be able to speak to your local councillor voicing concerns about the current lack of rank provision.

5th July – to Roly Schwarz about the different in cost of CRB checks. The Council charge £48; CRB charge £36.

No reply has been received and a reminder has been posted.

7th July – to Roly Schwarz asking about the legal number of vehicle tests the Council can require of each licensed vehicle.

No reply has been received and a reminder has been posted.

16th July – to Graham Boase on many issues including why has the council not carried out an unmet demand survey every 3 years, as advised by the Department of Transport?

A reply is awaited.

The above only shows the letters from July; my records of letters go back to May and you can see for yourself which departments haven’t replied!

A complaint has been lodged as to why some letters have been ignored..

So by now you are probably thinking, sending letters and more letters, what can that do?

It’s a matter of record keeping. Paperwork piling, pen-pushing, it all has a purpose. Instead of relying on minutes of meetings, and conversations, we have a written record of what was asked and what we were told. It all comes in handy, especially when replies contradict verbal responses!

PLEASE BEAR IN MIND that although we are being told the Blue Book is no longer valid, many of the conditions contained in the book are enforceable by other laws, mainly the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. So, even if there were no conditions, which we are told is the case, you can get yourself in trouble for offences under the 1976 Act.

If you are concerned about any particular ‘condition’ and its’ legality, post a question on the website and you will receive an answer. www.d-t-n.co.uk

Check the website for dates of next Taxi Forum meetings and Licensing Committee Meetings.

www.d-t-n.co.uk

The usual disclaimer applies:-

I will accept no liability to any party for any error, omission or misstatement produced herein.

"Giving up smoking is the easiest thing in the world. I know because I've done it thousands of times."

Mark Twain

In the Taxi Talk page on the website – www.d-t-n.co.uk 'LL' in the comments box is Linda Linda used to be our principal licensing officer and has a great deal of knowledge within the taxi trade, we would like to know if the trade members would be happy for her to support us at future meetings with the licensing committee and forums that are held from time to time, a simple yes or no answer would suffice along with your name, Linda would like to act as a voice for the trade, your thoughts please.

Please leave YES or No, or your comments on the Taxi Talk page.

It is quite a time consuming task keeping any website up-to-date. When it is being updated some pages may be moved around slightly so please bear with me. CLIVE.

Chuck was tired of waiting for a slot at Bodelwyddan so decided to fix it himself.

