

Taxi Liaison Group (TLG) meeting minutes
Thursday 7th August 2014, 11.00hrs

Jubilee Centre, Bradley Stoke

Chair: Councillor Shirley Potts (SP)

Councillors: Councillor Howard Gawler (HG)

SGC Licensing: Kevin Barley (KB), Lily Thornell (LT)

SGC Highways: Jonathan Munslow (JM)

South Gloucestershire Disability Equality Network: David Withers (DW)

Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Service: No attendees

Apologies: Mark Pullin (MP), Councillor Keith Cranney (KC)

Item			Action
1	Welcome	(SP) welcomed everyone to the meeting at 11.00hrs	
2	Previous minutes and matters arising	Matters arising from previous minutes and subsequent actions were discussed. All agreed minutes and were signed off as a true and accurate reflection.	
3	Bus lanes and taxi ranks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was stated at the previous TLG meeting that the signage at taxi rank on North Street, Downend was not correct, (JM) confirmed that this has been checked and the signage is correct and no changes will be made. • Cold Harbour Lane, Stoke Gifford - includes exemptions for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles; New Road, Stoke Gifford, has no exemption for Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicles; Highwood Road, Patchway- includes exemptions for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles. (JM) confirmed that these have all been checked and will be staying the same. • Harry Stoke Road, Little Stoke – Transport Team and Police to review signage in place - (JM) confirmed that the signage has been reviewed and it is felt 	

		<p>that it is clear and will be enforced where required by the Police.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filton Avenue/A4174 junction – that part of Filton roundabout scheme to address the current queueing and traffic flow issues. Re-painting of lines also logged as a job - (JM) confirmed that he needed to check the progress. • 2+lane on Coldharbour Lane; from observations a lot of single driver vehicles are using the lane during non-permitted hours but this is not being enforced - (JM) advised that this is ongoing and enforcement action will be taken. <p>(HG) raised concerns over the differences in the road systems between Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council. He also couldn't see the difference between PH and HC vehicles using the bus lane. (JM) said that any changes would have to be looked at through a policy review. (HG) asked him if he could look into what other local councils do, (JM) confirmed he would.</p> <p>Taxi ranks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Street, Chipping Sodbury – job logged for lines to be re-painted. (JM) confirmed that this is still to be done. • Moravian Road, Kingswood - job logged for lines to be re-painted. (JM) will check the progress. • Church Road, Filton – rank marked incorrectly and railings obstruct doors so passengers cannot exit vehicles safely. (JM) confirmed that the correct signage has been ordered. <p>(JM) confirmed he would get an update on all outstanding issues, (KB) asked if (JM) could send it to him, so he can circulate to drivers (JM) asked that if we have any future issues can we let Richard Staton aware of signage issues as he is responsible for prioritising workloads.</p>	
4	Six monthly review for Hackney Carriage	The proposal was a no increase fares based on the six monthly review of fuel prices. (KB)	

	Tariff of fares commencing 1 st October 2014	confirmed that he put an advert in the Bristol Post newspaper, as well as the One Stop Shops and on the public website. He confirmed that we had only one response to the consultation.	
5	Review of existing methodology used to determine Hackney Carriage tariff of fares	<p>(SP) asked (KB) how he was proposing the working group would work. (KB) confirmed that he's looking at other local authorities and can't find anything similar to the SGC methodology. A lot of the local authorities follow the TfL methodology or review fares when requested to do so by the licensed trade. (KB) said he would continue to research other methodologies and feedback to the group.</p> <p>(SP) asked for another meeting to be set up as we're not getting any response from the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Service anymore. (KB) said he favoured a survey over a meeting to decide the future of the TLG meetings.</p>	
6	Taxi policy review (2015-18)	<p>(KB) discussed the Law Commission reform proposals, the Deregulation Bill was soon to go through Parliament. One of the points in the Bill is that all licensed drivers will have to complete a disability awareness course whether they have a wheelchair accessible vehicle or not.</p> <p>Wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAV's) - in SGC we have 31 out of the 450 vehicles we licence which is about 7% (DW) wanted to explain that it doesn't cost more to buy a wheelchair accessible vehicle and in fact it is cheaper. (DW) did raise the issue of weight and width (as the ramp can weigh up to 300kg's). (DW) suggested that he contact a WAV supplier and arrange for examples of vehicles to be presented at the next TLG meeting for all parties to view and discuss.</p> <p>(KB) confirmed that a lot of the vehicles we licence as new vehicles aren't brand new - refer to the five year policy. (KB) said he felt it was going to need a balance. (DW) said he didn't think it was achievable to have 100% wheelchair accessible vehicles, however to make it fair (KB) said the implementation of a change in policy would have to be phased in over an agreed time with the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire</p>	

		<p>Service.</p> <p>(HG) asked about time frames, (KB) suggested it would need to be debated across all interested parties. (KB) said the vehicle specification would have to be detailed, (HG) suggested looking at Bristol City Council for their vehicle specification. (HG) feels it's likely to be forced upon us in the future, so we should be proactive now, (KB) also suggested a demand survey as had done some preliminary research with the Station Manager at Parkway Station.</p> <p>(SP) asked for a vision aid, (DW) said he would speak to OH Mobility.</p>	
7	New MOT bay at Broad Lane	(LT) will check that the signage is in place on site.	
8	Taxi Licensing enforcement update	<p>Bristol International Airport multi-agency operation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 out of the 104 vehicles checked where SGC • 1 vehicle was issued a PG9 by VOSA and taken off the road because of a bald tyre • 1 PG10 was issued because of a damaged seat belt • Several smaller issues <p>(SP) asked if any operations are planned for UWE, (KB) re-iterated as it was private land and not visible from the road, SGC are unable to enforce there. Education work would take place as part of Fresher's Week.</p> <p>Private Hire Operators - (KB) confirmed that Licensing Officers are in the process of checking all PHO records.</p> <p>Intelligence led Section 50 inspections: (KB) confirmed that we have recently being calling vehicles in for S50 inspections from public intelligence and complaints.</p>	
9	AOB	(DW) said that since the changes made at Parkway, sometime there are no Hackney Carriage vehicles available in the morning, and an excess in the evening, however none are	

		<p>wheelchair accessible.</p> <p>(HG) asked further to the newsletter, what percentage of vehicles accept credit and debit cards. (KB) said there are a few. (HG) said he can understand them wanting to put something on top and pass the charge onto the customer. (KB) said he hadn't had any feedback but would ask.</p> <p>With regards to CCTV in vehicles (HG) asked what the current status was, (KB) said he and (KJ) were continuing to find a local supplier as we've had problems with the existing supplier.</p>	
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Next Meeting: 11:00hrs, 23rd October 2014 @ Brook Way Activity Centre (Room C), Brook Way, Bradley Stoke, South Gloucestershire, BS32 9DA