

Minutes of Taxi Liaison Group Meeting on Thursday 26th July 2012
Ridgewood Offices

Chair: Councillor Shirley Potts (SP)

Attendees: Councillors Keith Cranney (KC) and Howard Gawler (HG)

SGC Licensing: Kevin Barley (KB)

Taxi & Private Hire Service: Robert Lonsdale (RB), Patricia Andrews (PA) Sharon Shaw (SS), Angela Marsh (AM), Dave Blake (DB), Janet Platten (JP), William Sanzo (WS)

Apologies: Mark Pullin (MP), Peter Harris (PH), Keith Jones (KJ), Emma Pain (EP), Gerry Treacy (GT) and Nick Bailey (NB)

		Action
I) Welcome	SP welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
II) Previous Minutes	<p>A run through and discussion of previous minutes and action notes. All agreed a true reflection of meeting.</p> <p>KB stated that the Licensing Team are still currently reviewing the CCTV protocol for South Gloucestershire as part of a tidy up exercise following the fitting of approximately 20 CCTV units in licensed vehicles. The vehicle licence holders will be contacted to receive a copy of the revised CCTV protocol in due course. There are a further 10 CCTV units that could be fitted into licensed vehicles, a further e-mail will be sent to licence holders to advise of this and any interest for fitting.</p> <p>KB stated that the Licensing Team are still looking at database options at present but no further along. KB and MP are part of project team.</p> <p>SP had spoken with Robert Walsh, Head of Safe Stronger Communities, to address Administration Team on-going issues and had been assured that the team is now fully staffed with on-going training to ensure required standards.</p>	KJ
III) Taxi Fares – update from Regulatory Committee meeting held on 21st June 2012 and consultation	KB confirmed that the Committee had agreed a ‘no increase’ to the current SGC Taxi tariff, this had gone out to public consultation, including the TLG e-mail group. There had been one response which would be considered further by the Committee on 23 rd August 2012.	
IV) Law Commission Taxi & Private Hire Reform Consultation	KB reminded the group that there is currently a national consultation on taxi legislation reform. The Law Commission consultation runs until 10 th September 2012. This is an opportunity for the T&PH Service and Councillors to make comments and suggestions to help try and shape the way	

	<p>forward on a national scale.</p> <p>SP stated that a TLG group response should be made. KB clarified he was meeting with Gloucestershire Authorities to make a group response. KB to highlight as a report to Regulatory Committee. WS stated he would make an individual response to consultation.</p> <p>SP went through summary points of consultation for members of the group, including the proposal for national standards for private hire.</p>	KB
V) VOSA correspondence update	<p>KB stated that there have been no further correspondence from VOSA in regards PSV's. SP asked if someone could attend the next TLG meeting, KB and WS confirmed that would be unlikely as VOSA staff usually not available for meetings. WS confirmed that getting final clarification from VOSA is very difficult. KB and CJ will continue to liaise with VOSA contacts for final clarification.</p>	KB/CJ
VI) Transportation & Highways	<p>Highwood Road, Patchway – KC stated that bus lane can be used by taxi vehicles but not private hire vehicles.</p> <p>Heron Way, Yate – no further works and SP/KB to make contact with Officers for update on progress.</p> <p>KC also urged TLG members to look at current consultation for road from Abbeywood (Longmead/Cheswick bus route) and respond.</p>	SP/KB ALL
VII) Taxi newsletter	<p>KB stated newsletter had been produced and sent out, available in reception or on request. KB emphasised the need for 3 weeks in advance for appointments to renew licences, KB also looking at text reminder service. JP asked about e-mailing renewal letters, KB now has about 300 members of TLG e-mail group so not all licence holders. DB also raised about disabled vehicles and 15 year rule, KB to clarify in newsletter applies to all vehicles.</p>	KB
VIII) Taxi Licensing Enforcement Update	<p>KB stated that Section 50 inspections continue to take place where intelligence is received of non-compliance.</p>	
AOB	No items recorded	

Next Meeting: 10.00am Thursday 18th October 2012 @ Conference Room, Ridgewood