

Transport for London

Commissioner meeting with Taxi Trade

17 January 2018

Attendees:

Mike Brown	(TfL)
Helen Chapman	(TfL)
Gareth Powell	(TfL)
Andrew Antoni	(TfL)
Steve McNamara	(Licensed Taxi Drivers Association)
Grant Davies	(London Cab Drivers Club)
Jim Kelly	(Unite the Union – London and Eastern taxi cab section)
Lewis Norton	(RMT)
Trevor Merralls	(United Cabbies Group)

Topic	Notes
TPH Compliance	<p>Discussion on the current Taxi and Private Hire (TPH) structure specifically relating to compliance and enforcement resources being segregated from TPH department.</p> <p>SMc and LN raised concerns with the proportionality of compliance checks for taxi and private hire vehicle drivers.</p> <p>MB advised that compliance teams have been instructed to focus on proportionality, where possible, when undertaking checks. Latest figures show that around 90 per cent of checks carried out were for private hire vehicles and 10 per cent were for taxis. Information is presented at our quarterly Taxi Operational Performance Seminars and published online: www.tfl.gov.uk/tph-meetings.</p> <p>TM raised concerns with the action TfL takes against alleged driver offences, particularly drivers that have amassed a number of different minor offences. SMC agreed to pass on specific examples of drivers who have been written to, questioning their fitness to be licensed, based on allegations of an offence.</p> <p>MB and HC also encouraged all trade representatives to pass on examples of drivers that have been suspended or stopped from working for minor offences, or allegations of an offence, so this can be looked into further.</p> <p>LN raised concerns with road markings and signage being out of date at taxi ranks across London. HC agreed to raise this through the Cab Ranks Committee.</p>
Display of Vehicles	Discussion on plying for hire and previous proposals put forward to prohibit private



<p>on Apps</p>	<p>hire vehicles being displayed on mobile applications.</p> <p>MB has written to the new Minister of State and Minister of London, Jo Johnson, on a number of issues, including plying for hire. Plying for hire will form an important part of future discussions.</p> <p>LN mentioned that taking the visibility of vehicles away is something that is within TfL's gift to introduce. HC agreed to re-visit the previous proposal which formed part of TfL's review of private hire regulations.</p>
<p>Licence Decision</p>	<p>GD raised concerns that ULL is continuing to operate despite being refused a new licence.</p> <p>MB and HC – the legal process is underway and it would not be appropriate to discuss the case further while litigation is ongoing.</p>
<p>Taxi Exclusion – Bank Junction, Tottenham Court Rd & Oxford Street</p>	<p>SMc raised concerns that there are no reasonable grounds to exclude taxis at these locations.</p> <p>SMc asked that TfL reiterate to City of London (CoL) that taxis should be included. GP will be meeting with CoL. SMc to liaise with GP ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>SMc raised concerns with Camden's rationale for excluding taxis on the basis of pollution and congestion. SMc requested that TfL contact Camden asking that it reviews its decision, particularly in light of the recent Oxford St West consultation.</p> <p>MB has requested a review of the wider impact assessment for all these schemes.</p>
<p>Bus Lane Update</p>	<p>Discussion on progress of request for taxi access to Blackwall Tunnel northbound via Tunnel Avenue.</p> <p>Mb has written to the leader of Greenwich Council and will feedback to trade representatives once he has heard back.</p>
<p>Advanced Driving Test</p>	<p>Discussion took place regarding progress on re-introducing an advanced driving assessment for taxi drivers.</p> <p>HC confirmed that, having undertaken early market engagement, a consultation will soon be taking place which will include proposals for an advanced driving test for both taxis and PHVs.</p> <p>HC also provided an update on temporary measures that have been put in place which includes providing information on loading/unloading wheelchairs as part of the Knowledge talk.</p>

	MB agreed to attend a future Knowledge presentation
Heathrow AVA Car Park	<p>GD raised concerns regarding drivers working via the Uber application at Heathrow.</p> <p>HC advised that TfL will continue to send compliance presence at Heathrow to address any issues of misuse.</p> <p>TfL has been seeking further clarity on Uber's operating model. This continues in parallel with the appeal against TfL's licensing decision.</p>
AOB	<p><u>Wheely</u></p> <p>HC confirmed that TfL is currently investigating recent reports on Wheely and will feedback to trade representatives once the investigation has been concluded.</p> <p><u>Taxi drivers switching to PHV</u></p> <p>LN asked whether taxi drivers who crossover to private hire have to satisfy TfL's English language requirement.</p> <p>HC confirmed that there are no "grandfather rights" for taxi drivers or existing PHV drivers.</p> <p><u>DBS Checks</u></p> <p>GD asked for progress update on drivers who have had to undertake a new DBS check through TfL's approved service provider, GB Group.</p> <p>HC clarified that all licensed drivers have undertaken a DBS check prior to becoming licensed, however around 2,600 had not done so via its approved service provider, GB Group. TfL has written to all those affected informing them that they will need to undertake another DBS check via TfL's approved provider, GB Group.</p>

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