



**Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Trade Meeting  
Tuesday, 15 December 2020 @ 10.00am  
Virtual - Teams**

Present	(MAK) Mike Kay - DCC (Chair)	(AMR) Angela Rawson - DCC	
	(DB) Dave Basford - DCC	(CK) Craig Keen - DCC	
	(MD) Mark Dunn – Police	(AW) Ashley Wigley -	
	(MN) Muhsin Nazir - DATOA	(SQ) Shahid Quayum - ALPHA	
	(AA) Arshad Ali -		
		Who	When
<b>1</b>	<b>Introductions &amp; Apologies</b>		
	No apologies received		
<b>2</b>	<b>Terms of Reference</b>		
	AMR confirmed that the Terms of Reference for this meeting going forward had been finished and would be circulated to the group to take effect from January 2021. AMR confirmed that the purpose of the meeting was not to discuss individual matters and they should be dealt with by contacting the Licensing Office directly.	AMR	January 2021
<b>3</b>	<b>City Update</b>		
	MK confirmed that the meeting as set for today in the hope that there would have been some further update as to which tier we would be in for the Christmas period (Tier 3 as now or Tier 2). The update from the government is not due until tomorrow but assume the status quo will be maintained with us staying in Tier 3.		
<b>4</b>	<b>Trade Items</b>		
	AMR agreed to outline questions for future agendas rather than state number of items. This would help discussion.  DATOA 1) Impact of Covid on Taxi Trade MN summarised the main areas of concern faced by the trade, in particular the lack of work, reduced		



	<p>income and the effect this will have on drivers/proprietors ability to maintain/invest in their business.</p> <p>MK confirmed it was unlikely that licensing fees would be increased this time around</p> <p>SQ raised an issue regarding refunds whilst drivers are in isolation. AMR Requests in relation to individual matters should be sent into the Licensing Office for consideration.</p> <p>2) Grant Scheme for Taxi Trade MN raised questions as to how the scheme was developed, the timescale and grant amount was worked out – AMR to as relevant department and send respond to this group</p> <p>3) Points System MN raised concerns over the points system. MAK confirmed that AMR would be reviewing the points system and the enforcement policy at some point in 2021</p> <p>4) Implementation of Euro 6 compliant Taxis MN advised it would take many years to complete the requirement to change vehicles by 2025 deadline, particularly because of Covid. MAK accepted the point and would keep under consideration for the future</p> <p>5) Colour of Hackneys MN advised he thought the decision had been rushed with insufficient consultation. Yellow was easily identified as DCC taxi. DCC is already struggling to keep control of out of towners. MAK responded to say that he disagreed with the comment regarding the lack of consultation and confirmed the matter had been before the Licensing Committee a couple of times but has captured the comment. AW – does not agree with MN SQ – does not agree with MN</p> <p>ALPHA</p> <p>1) PPE Equipment SQ advised that his members have requested support with providing PPE and assistance with cleaning costs. MAK advised that the Council would find it difficult to support an individual sector as other small businesses would then require the same support and do not have the resources to provide this. SQ asked if DCC could use some of the grant money. MAK advised he could ask the section that is</p>	AMR/MK	
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	<p>dealing with the grant but again it would need to go to all small businesses otherwise it would be unfair to them.</p> <p>2) Licence Conditions – number of passengers  SQ raised the issue of the number of passengers allowed in vehicles against the number stated on their plate. He asked if the plates could be covered or amended. MAK advised that the plate set out the maximum number of passengers that could be carried and that a driver would not be challenged if they informed customers that they could only take 2 passengers in the current climate. If the customer complained, we would support the driver and any risk assessment in place of the operator. MAK also advised that we would not support covering the plate as it clearly identifies ‘up to 4 passengers’. DB and AMR agreed cannot cover the plate as it is the legal requirement. MAK suggested we put a note on the website to advise that ‘under the current Covid restrictions, passenger numbers may be reduced’. SQ suggested same message be sent to the operators in case of complaints. MD advised that any public order matters should be reported to the police.</p> <p>3) Magnetic Plates  SQ advised that some members have asked for the use of magnetic plates due to thefts and vehicle break-in. Other Councils do use them. AMR advised it is something that can be looked into. DB advised that they can still be easily stolen and so the costs would remain with the driver. There is also a legal consideration that the plates should be fixed ‘at all times’ to the vehicle. SQ will obtain a set and provide to the Licensing Office. MD does not support the use of magnetic plates</p> <p>Javid Khan</p> <p>1) Fire Extinguishers &amp; First Aid Kit  Mr Khan was not present but by email raised the issue regarding the conditions requiring fire extinguisher and first aid kit to be available in the vehicle and whether that condition could be removed. AMR made comment that it was a matter of public safety for the driver as well as the passenger. There was no need for a driver to be ‘qualified’ to use the equipment as it was the same as used in caravans,</p>		
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	<p>motorhomes and available to the general public. DB outlines the response he sent to Mr Khan. MD advise that there was a requirement. MD confirmed it was a requirement in their squad cars and were very easy to use – basically point and spray and wait for services.</p>		
<b>5</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>		
	<p>(DB) Dave Basford – DCC Had received a complaint about drivers toileting or emptying bottles in the area of Abbey Street. DB asked those present to remind drivers this is not acceptable behaviour. MD also mentioned that urinating in public is a criminal offence.</p> <p>(MD) Mark Dunn – Police If the Police can support the trade in any way they will – and to let MAK/AMR/DB know any details.</p>		

**Date and time of next meeting: 16 March 2020 @ 10am (Virtual)**

