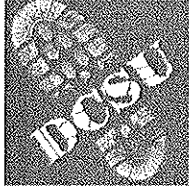


Summary of responses and proposed amendments to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy

| Consultee | Observations | Comment / Action Taken | Amendments to Licensing Policy |
|---|---|--|--|
| Christopher Allen Dover District Community Safety Partnership | Lack of adequate checks on Driving Licenses, which could lead to drivers being licensed where penalty points have not been disclosed and/or driving licenses have expired. | Research has been undertaken to assess the likely cost of providing such information for each applicant and is in the region of £5-£6 per applicant. | An amendment has been made to the draft policy in relation to driver applications to include an extra fee (expected to be in the region of £5-£6 per application) to cover the DVLA licence check. (Payable by the applicant at time of application.) It is felt that this is a significant amendment to the policy and requires further consultation. |
| Dover District Taxi Forum | Representatives of the Taxi Trade who attended the forum were not supportive of the proposed requirement for Hackney Carriages to be Wheelchair Accessible by 2020. They asked for evidence that there was the necessary demand and also raised concerns over the use of such vehicles, which they claimed, the elderly have problems using as they are higher than normal saloons. | In light of the levels of concern raised by the trade it has been considered prudent to delay the implementation of the requirement for all hackney carriage vehicles to be wheelchair accessible by 2020 until such time as conclusive evidence were provided that there was a real need. It is proposed that a full Equalities and Diversity Impact Assessment is conducted during the lifecycle of the policy (3 years) | The requirement for all hackney carriage vehicles to be wheelchair accessible by 2020 has been removed from the policy. The hackney carriage vehicle specifications have been redrafted. It is felt that this is a significant amendment to the policy and requires further consultation. |
| | Concerns were raised about the use of magnetic signs as they are easily transferable and could also be stolen. | The use of magnetic signs are a relevant concern and it is felt that the dangers posed by their approved use far outweigh any potential benefits. | The policy excludes the use of magnetic signs on licensed vehicles. No change proposed. |
| | Members of the forum raised concerns over continued breaches of the Smoke Free regulations with requests for greater enforcement of drivers smoking in vehicles | Noted | No change proposed |
| | The issue of prestige vehicles applying for an exemption from the requirement to display plates was raised. | The licensing team are very strict about approving exemptions to display plates and will only allow such a waiver where a vehicle is | No change proposed |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | | used exclusively for chauffer or wedding work etc. | |
| Richard Amos Hackney Carriage Proprietor | Serious reservations about the requirement for Hackney Carriage Vehicles to be wheelchair accessible by 2020. Issues raised include the level of actual need, cost of purchasing such vehicles and also vehicle height for disabled and the elderly. | In light of the levels of concern raised by the trade it has been considered prudent to delay the implementation of the requirement for all hackney carriage vehicles to be wheelchair accessible by 2020 until such time as conclusive evidence were provided that there was a real need. It is proposed that a full Equalities and Diversity Impact Assessment is conducted during the lifecycle of the policy (3 years) | The requirement for all hackney carriage vehicles to be wheelchair accessible by 2020 has been removed from the policy. The hackney carriage vehicle specifications have been redrafted. It is felt that this is a significant amendment to the policy and requires further consultation. |
| | Supportive of the 300,000-mileage limit. | Noted | No change proposed |
| | Supportive of Prestige Licensing Requirements, providing such vehicles are genuinely prestige. | Noted | No change proposed |
| | Would like option of using magnetic signs. | The use of magnetic signs are a relevant safety concern and it is felt that the dangers posed by their approved use far outweigh any potential benefits. | No change proposed |
| | Would like to see better enforcement of Smoke Free regulations and revised dress code for drivers | Noted | No change proposed |
| | Would like to see the Taxi Ranks repainted | The Licensing Team is already aware of the need for taxi ranks to be repainted. An approach has already been made to the Highways Team regarding this issue. | No change proposed |
| County Cars Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Operator | Supportive of the revised policy proposals | Noted | No change proposed |

Dover District Council
Licensing Section
24 JUL 2012



**Kent
Police**

MEMO

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Ref No. | | Date | 24 th July 2012 |
| From: Name: Christopher Allen Department: Community Safety Extension: 2054 | | To: Name: John Newcombe Department: Licensing Extension: | |
| Subject: | Consultation on Taxi Licensing Policy | | |

With reference to my initial handwritten reply on the draft Taxi Licensing Policy and our earlier conversation.

I have now had a further opportunity to re-read the draft policy and review my initial comments, and note that I have not made a comment concerning driver licenses. I am concerned at an apparent lack of adequate measures within the application process to check on driver's licenses. I am aware that some licenses have expired and/or contain penalty points that are not always disclosed during the application process. I would like to see enquiries made with the DVLA in respect of each application/renewal to check on the authenticity of licenses. Whilst this will incur a charge, this will be outweighed by the protection this will afford to the public.

Christopher Allen,
Community Safety, CCTV and Parking Manager.

John Newcombe

From: Richard Amos [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 July 2012 11:46
To: LicUser
Subject: Draft Taxi Policy 2012
Morning John and team

Just a couple of thing about Taxi policy

1/ All taxis to have wheelchair access by 2020

I think this would be a real problem as a lot of people in our area don't like van type of taxi and they hate Black Cabs (as i f find out when i had one for two weeks on loan) Also the height of these vehicles is to high for some eg older and wheelchair people that can get out of their chair ??

and the coast of them to us taxi drivers

2/ Miles

I think 300,000 miles is more than enough for any car and engine

3/Prestige Vehicles

Yes if the vehicle is Prestige not a normal vehicle If a normal vehicle it should have plates on like the rest of us

4/Signs

I think we should have option of Magnetised sign's Because some of the vehicles are our private car as well as work

also we do get ask to do weddings,funeral etc. and it look better with it plan

Yes if we are working i think its a good idea to help the customer

5/

Smoke free would be nice see and the wearing of the right shorts sorted out

ANY NEWS ON THE RANKS BEING REPAINTED ??????????????????????

Please note my new e/mail address [REDACTED]

Regards

Richard Amos [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

14/08/2012

John Newcombe

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 June 2012 11:42
To: LicUser
Cc: John Newcombe
Subject: Revised Taxi Policy 2012-2015
FAO: John Newcombe

Hi John

We have looked through all the proposals in the Revised Taxi Policy and we are in agreement with them. I think these measures will enable the trade to continue moving forward in a sensible manner, in spite of the difficulties encountered due to the current economic climate

Also: Just to let you know that Lyndon will be attending the Taxi Forum meeting at 1030 Weds 20th.

Best regards
County Taxis (Dover)