

DRIVER DRESS CODE

Summer has at last arrived. Drivers are reminded that there is a Dress Code in force as detailed in the Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Licensing Policy.

WELCOME

Welcome to our second Newsletter, designed to help us make contact with you in order to raise your awareness of Taxi Licensing matters that may affect you, and to develop ways to promote the use of the local taxi and private hire trades.

PAYMENT OF LICENCE FEES

The Council has now closed its Payment Offices, and so payment for your licence fee must now be made when you book your appointment to renew your **Hire Vehicle Driver Licence** and/or **Private Hire Operator Licence**.

The Council will shortly be introducing “**self-service**” payment options on the Council website and on “**touch screens**” in the reception area of the Kirkby-in-Ashfield office, however in the meantime, we would be grateful if you would make your licence fee payment for your Badge and/or Operator Licence by telephone when booking your appointment with the Licensing Officer.

DBS UPDATE SERVICE

We have noticed though that many drivers have not yet signed up to the DBS Update Service.

By registering with the DBS Update Service (which can be done within 19 days of the issue of the DBS Disclosure), you simply pay an annual fee of £13.00 and the result of the DBS check is immediate, rather than paying £44.00 each time and having to wait for the DBS Disclosure to be issued to you.

If you wish to register with the DBS Update Service, contact us, and we will help you register when your next DBS Disclosure is returned to you.

COMPLIANCE CHECKS

You may now be aware that the Licensing Team carry out checks of vehicles and drivers whilst they are at ranks or in other locations across Ashfield.

The purpose of these checks is to bring familiarity between the Officers and the drivers, as well as to promote the required standards that have been implemented across Ashfield.

Please feel free to approach the Officers so that you can raise any questions and concerns that you may have, as they want to help you.

TAXI & PRIVATE HIRE TRADE MEETING

The Licensing Manager is looking to hold regular meetings with those who run Taxi and Private Hire Companies locally, so if you wish to be part of a “Steering Group” that plans how the Ashfield District develops in relation to the local Trade, please let him know that you want to be part of the Group. Please send your request to the Licensing Manager by email using the address at the bottom of this Newsletter.

It is also very important that the drivers and vehicles owners are represented within the Steering Group, so that the views of individuals are heard and considered, in order that together we create a Taxi and Private Hire Trade that supports everyone, and that all voices are heard.

Please let the Licensing Manager know of your intention to be part of the Group by way of email to the address at the bottom of this Newsletter.