

# HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE FORUM MEETING

**Venue: Virtual**

**Agenda: 31 July 2024**

## **Attendees and who they represent:**

Councillor Sarah Classick (**SC**) (Chair) representing Bristol City Council  
Jonathan Martin (**JM**) representing Bristol City Council  
Dakota Delahunty (**DD**) representing Bristol City Council  
Darron Hamilton (**DH**) representing Bristol City Council  
Penny Gilg (**PG**) representing Bristol City Council  
Tom Yiangou (**TY**) representing Bristol City Council  
Karen Daniels (**KD**) representing Bristol City Council  
Patrick Quinton (**PQ**) representing Avon & Somerset Police  
Mahad Jama (MJ) representing Magans  
Steve Lohia (**SL**) representing BDriven  
Christie Twelvetree (**CT**) representing Veezu  
Gary O'neill (**GO**) Private Hire Driver  
Mike Bullock (**MB**) representing Bristol Executive Cars  
Mohammad Islam (**MI**) BBLTA Chair  
Mohamed Aideed (**MA**) representing Bristol Blue Taxis

## ● **Welcome, Introductions, Apologies**

Apologies  
Desmond Broster (Veezu)

## ● **Agree minutes from last meeting**

Minutes from April 2024

Actions:

### **Revocations**

JM advised that this has been referred to the Council's legal team.

PQ advised that South Gloucester have now implemented notifying operators of revocations.

## ● **Licensing Team Update (JM)**

- Tints policy is due to go to the Public Safety and Protection Committee within the next few months. Until then tints are being signed off by JM.
- There is currently one vacancy within the team, the rest of the team are in permanent roles. Turnaround times are currently 15-16 days from application, this includes the time the team are waiting information from applicants.

- PQ advised that he'd offered a taxi surgery a few weeks ago, and there was very little uptake, the feedback around turnaround times had been positive.
- Trade representatives advised lots of people are due to replace their vehicles, could the process be quicker. JM advised that these are being processed quickly when the correct documents are provided, but he's happy to work with the trade to increase this.

### **Transport Updates (KD)**

There has been a request for the taxi rank on St Augustine's Parade to become a 24-hour rank. The request has been reviewed and a consultation carried out with local businesses which ends today. The information would be assessed, and a proposal made.

Issues have been raised with the taxi rank outside SWX on Nelson Street. Due to the proposed changes in Broadmead, comments and requests for changes to this rank should be made through the consultation process for the City Centre Project. Trade representatives raised that they don't need spaces on the Queens Avenue taxi rank. KD advised she'd spoken to PQ about this, but it would be good to arrange a separate meeting to look at this in more detail.

- **East Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood (TY)**

TY runs through a presentation on the East Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood Scheme.

- This is a trial covering Barton Hill, parts of Redhill and St George to better balance how streets are used for people and vehicles. It will include physical measures such as plants/bollards in the roads, bus gates. Taxi and Private Hires will have exemptions for these automatically, but the physical barriers will change the flow of the traffic.
- Trade representatives asked how this would affect Home to School transport. TY advised that the roads would still be accessible, but the routes taken would change.

- **City Centre Development Plan (DH)**

PG runs through a presentation on the City Centre Development Plan, highlights include;

- 2500 more homes
- Horsefair and Penn street will be pedestrian priority.
- Time restricted access to Union Street with bus priority, no taxis or parking

- New rapid transit service – bus route as part of rapid transit, Long Ashton park and ride to the city. There will be infrastructure changes, as well as bus rerouting.
  - Layout changes to Bond Street, Temple Way, Redcliffe roundabout, Bedminster bridge and Broadmead area
  - There will be a consultation which will run from 12 August to 30 September which will be on the Council's website.
  - There will be 10 drop in events which will run between 17 August and 23 September
  - Trade representatives raised concerns that it would make some journeys significantly longer, and that whilst the rank spaces would remain the same, there would be a decrease in the number of ranks.
  - It was clarified that where taxis are referenced it would include private hire vehicles.
- **TaxiCop Update (PQ)**
    - PQ advised that July had been an exceptionally busy month. Each month he has around 50 different drivers contact him for help, about half of which usually takes a while to resolve.  
There are a number of enquiries in relation to asking for CCTV following accidents, PQ is looking into whether drivers can submit Subject Access Requests when businesses CCTV gave captured the accident.  
PQ stops on average 40-50 vehicles per month which generates a lot of work, he has also been working on a lot of intelligence-based work. PQ had recently been on an operation with the DVSA, and had concerns that drivers aren't checking their tyres correctly.  
PQ dealt with 26 reports from partners in July, these came from Police colleagues, community speed watch and the central ticket office. Each month Patrick discloses information to the council about 5-6 areas of concern.  
Trade representatives raised concerns around Hackney Carriage Drivers refusing people who were paying by card. PQ advised he was happy to assist with test purchasing.
- **Issues from BBLTA and issues from Private Hire**

One of the trade representatives asked if there could be a consultation on keeping members of the trade with penalty points on the road.  
JM advised that the policy on driving endorsements is in line with National Standards, and that he could not see any justification for departing from this.  
DD advised that applicants would only be referred to PSP if they had serious endorsements or were repeat offenders.
- **AOB and Date of next meeting**

Action Point	Matters arising	By Whom	Completed?
1	Add information to Newsletter about submitting documents in advance of renewal.	DD	Completed
2	Legal advice regarding notifying operators of revocations – speak to other Local Authorities regarding providing information on revocations.	JM	Ongoing
3	Look at options for more ranks.	KD	Ongoing
5	Send contact details to DD to circulate to the trade for local plan.	SP	Ongoing
6			
7			
8			

**Next meeting: TBC**