

Central
Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ



**TO EACH MEMBER OF THE
REGULATION COMMITTEE**

08 January 2010

Dear Councillor

REGULATION COMMITTEE - Wednesday 13 January 2010

Further to the Agenda and papers for the above meeting, previously circulated, please find attached the following additional information:

8. CONSULTATION LETTERS AND RESPONSES

Please find attached information which was omitted from the original agenda.

Should you have any queries regarding the above please contact Democratic Services on Tel: 0300 300 4040.

Yours sincerely

Helen Bell,
Democratic Services Officer
email: helen.bell@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

M J GALVIN

43 SAFFRON RD

BIGGLESWADE

BEDS

SG188DJ

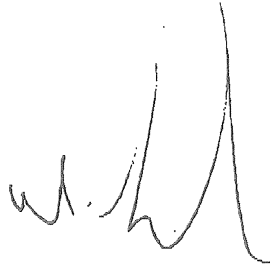
DRIVER No 698

8TH JULY 09.

DEAR MRS JAMES.

Reference the 'drop in' sessions you attended at Central Beds Council at Priory House Chicksands Shefford on Wed 8th July 09. I spoke to you on your own outside reference my nearly finished new built Limousine Beetle! I asked about the 6 monthly limo inspections to be considered for yearly instead. You asked me to put it in writing to you, and you will put it forward to the licensing committee in September/October 09. I thank you for your time and effort in this matter.

Yours sincerely



M J GALVIN

①

DRIVERS IN ZONE B

WOULD LIKE TO KEEP THE OLD RULES AND REGULATIONS AS OF MID BEDS DISTRICT COUNCIL AND NOT HAVE TO NEW ONES AS OF CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE WHICH SEEM TO APPLY TO A BIGGER TOWN, RATHER THAN SMALL VILLAGES - AS WE ARE.

GOING THROUGH THE BYE-LAWS AND SUCH FORTH.

BYE-LAW (No 7)

THE DRIVER OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE, SHALL, WHEN PLYING FOR HIRE IN ANY STREET AND NOT ACTUALLY HIRED -

A) PROCEED WITH REASONABLE SPEED TO ONE OF THE APPOINTED STANDS BY COUNCIL.

FIRSTLY THIS SOUNDS RATHER SILLY AS WE DON'T HAVE APPOINTED STANDS IN FLITWICK OR AMPHILL.

EVEN THOUGH DRIVERS HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR THEM FOR MANY YEARS. WE WOULD LIKE THE COUNCIL TO ISSUE US WITH PROPER STANDS (RANKS) WHICH WE CAN WORKOUT OF.

AT PRESENT WE HAVE TO USE THE STATION AT FLITWICK, WHICH HAS LIMITED SPACES AND 20 LIMITED PERMITS WHICH ARE VERY EXPENSIVE AT £500 PER YEAR OR £120.00 EVERY THREE MONTHS BUT THESE HAVE BEEN LIMITED AND THERE ARE MANY DRIVERS WHOM HAVE BEEN

P.T.O

UNABLE TO BUY THEM AT PRESENT.

SO IT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT THE COUNCIL IT SELF SUPPLIES A PROPER BANK OR BANKS FOR ZONE B DRIVERS TO WORKOUT OFF. OR THE COUNCIL SHOULD PAY A FEE TO FIRST CAPITAL CONNECT OR NCP WHOM THE PERMITS ARE ISSUED BY. SO THAT DRIVERS HAVE THERE BANKS, AT NO EXTRA COSTS.

Ideally You "CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE" SHOULD SUPPLY PROPER SUPPORTED BANKS FOR YOUR "HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS" TO WORKOUT OFF AS OF DUNSTABLE.

ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS AFTER MIDNIGHT THEY HAVE TO SIT IN WAITROSE CARPARK UNTIL THE ARE CALLED FORWARD BY BOUNCERS AT WHITEHART IN AMPHILL. BUT WE DONOT HAVE ANY COUNCIL BANKS WITHIN ARE AREA.

②

IN 2006 WE HAD LETTERS from You Informing us that Disabled Access Vehicles were going to become Legistabon, By the Government.

AT the Present we as DRIVERS cannot find anything before 2015 that says we have to become Disabled Access Vehicles.

This is Information has come through a Union Rep of which many drivers have joined.

Many drivers are now questions comitee members, to find out why they have had to up-grade the cars and put Disabled Access Vehicles in place off

Also drivers were made to Change cars to less than 6 years old, so that they didn't have to buy Disabled Access Vehicle before 2011

IT KNOW seems that we as drivers have Until 2015 Before it Becomes LAW Every Other Area (County) like Milton Keynes, Bedford, Luton Still have mixed fleets. We are a Small Village Area but are expected By our council to Buy no less than 6 year old cars which you are going to make us take back off the road, by 2011 to Buy Disabled Access Vehicles.

Drivers themselves cannot see why they are made to do such things when there has been no change in the law.

PTO.

Dunstable in fact don't have an age limit so why do we have when we are now all "Central Bedfordshire".

Why one law for Dunstable and one for a small village like us. We have a 6 year age limit on normal cars and a 10 year age limit on Disable Access Vehicles.

Are you going to make Dunstable in line with us or allow us to run our cars the same as Dunstable as Central Bedfordshire means Zone A and Zone B are no different. So therefore we shouldn't have any age limits.

Please consider our points, otherwise we will have to get legal representation, through our Union Reps.

No AGE limit

1) DRIVERS wish for no-age limit on cars, and to be able to run these vehicles for as long as it is roadworthy and goes through Mechanical Testing

2) Drivers wish to be able to choose what sort of vehicle they drive and not be ~~at~~ made to have disabled Access Vehicles as there is no call for them in the area.

Reason for this

1) A lot of Older People donot like the Disabled Access Vehicles, as they are higher of the Ground and more awkward to get in and out of, as most have narrow steps which are dangerous for feet, and walking sticks. They donot expect the drivers to put there ramps down for small journey's, most only travel local - - like -

- 1) Lutwick to Ampthill
- 2) Ampthill to Ampthill
- 3) Ampthill to Maulden.

2) A lot of Business Men and Women still prefer the ordinary car for all there general needs, Especially when travelling to Airports ie Luton and Heathrow.

AS THEY ARE FAR MORE COMFORTABLE, WE AS THE DRIVERS HAVE HAD PEOPLE WHOM HAVE REFUSED TO TRAVEL TO AIRPORTS IN A DISABLED ACCESS VEHICLE BECAUSE OF THOSE REASONS.

THANKFULLY AT THE MOMENT WE STILL HAVE A VARIETY OF VEHICLES TO BE ABLE TO PLEASE ARE CUSTOMERS AND PROVIDE FOR THERE NEEDS.

THIS IS WHY WE ARE ASKING YOU TO ALLOW US TO KEEP ARE MIXED SELECTION AND VARIETY OF DIFFERENT VEHICLES TO BE ABLE TO KEEP CUSTOMERS HAPPY, AS THEY ARE WHAT HELPS US TO SURVIVE.

3) TEST TO BE KEPT TO ANNUAL ONCE A YEAR, WE HAVE NEVER HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE CARS BEING TESTED YEARLY UPTO NOW SO WHY CHANGE IT.

MOST DRIVERS HAVE NEWER CARS NOW, THAN 10 YEARS AGO WHEN TAXI'S WERE FIRST INTRODUCED TO FLITWICK AND AMPHILL.

1) A NORMAL CAR ONLY HAS TO GO THROUGH AN M.O.T ONCE A YEAR BY LAW SO WHY SHOULD IT BE ANY DIFFERENT FOR THE TAXI'S. AS THEY ARE PROBABLY BETTER MAINTAINED THAN ANY NORMAL PERSONS CAR, BECAUSE DRIVERS HAVE TO KEEP VEHICLE ON ROAD TO BE ABLE TO EARN HIS LIVING - etc.

4

BADGE and CBR Checks

DRIVERS WOULD WISH YOU TO CONSIDER THAT.

- 1) ALL BADGES SHOULD BE ISSUED FOR THREE years as of CBR CHECKS AND THESE SHOULD RUN TO CORRESPOND TOGETHER, AS IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR THE DRIVERS AND YOURSELVES TO ADMINISTERATE, AS OF NEXT LICENCE APPLICATION FORM 2010.

IT WOULD ALSO NOT CAUSE TO MANY LAPSES IN LICENCE AND CBR CHECKS DRIVERS ARE HAPPY TO PAY THE COST OF THREE YEAR BADGES, BUT IT WOULD MAKE THE ADMINISTRATION CHARGES CHEAPER FOR YOURSELVES AND DRIVERS.

- 2) DRIVERS BADGES ARE ALREADY IN THE VEHICLES.

- 3) LOST OR STOLEN BADGES SHOULD BE REPLACED BY COUNCIL AT NO EXTRA COST TO DRIVERS AS ALL FEES WOULD HAVE BEEN PAID ON ISSUE OF BADGES, AS YOU ARE SAYING THE BADGES REMAIN PROPERTY OF COUNCIL SO WHY ARE THERE EXTRA COST TO DRIVERS FOR ADMINISTRATION OF NEW ONES.

5

No MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

No WE DONT WANT MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

IT IS NOT A RULE AT PRESENT

- 1) IT SHOULD APPLY TO NEW DRIVERS ONLY
- 2) Any-one over The AGE OF 65 YEARS Old WHICH IS LEGAL RETIREMENT AGE.
- 3) BUT NOT EXISTING DRIVERS WHOM HAVE BEEN DRIVING IN MID BEDS FOR MANY YEARS, AND WHOM ARE WELL AND FIT UP TO NOW, AND HAVE HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH THERE HEALTH

KNOWLEDGE TEST

- 1) MOST OF THE DRIVERS WHOM HAVE BEEN DRIVING FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS ARE WELL ESTABLISHED SO A KNOWLEDGE TEST FOR EXISTING DRIVERS IS POINTLESS AND TIME CONSUMING. Some of the drivers HAVE BEEN HERE AS LONG AS THE TAXI'S HAVE BEEN HERE, SO WHAT COULD WOULD A KNOWLEDGE TEST BE TO THEM.

- 2) All Knew Applicants should have a knowledge test but this should also include an English Speaking Test, as some find it hard to speak in proper English to Customers.

IF Knowledge test have to be Applied to ALL,

- 1) DRIVERS SHOULD HAVE A CHOICE OF WRITTEN
- 2) OR VERBAL (SPEAKING TEST) AS some find it hard to WRITE.

To whom it may concern

Date: 27th of August 2009.

Dear sir/madam,

With due regards we the current hackney license holders would request you that new amendments regarding the life of the vehicle should not affect the existing licenses but the new licenses. The 10 years life condition should remain with existing hackney plated vehicles and what so ever new conditions are being introduced or will be introduced should not applied to existing hackney plated vehicles but can be to newly issued hackney plates.


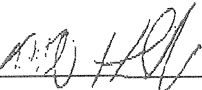


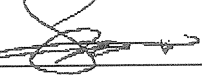



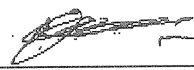



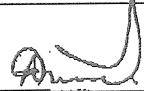
Finally we would appreciate the authorities if they move the grove theatre rank which is located at the back of grove theatre near (GX bowel) to the front of the theatre opposite Asda bus stop.

We would be thankful to you for considering our requests and hope that new amendments will not affect the current hackney licenses.

Yours faithfully,

All the hackney owners/drivers

Name	Badge no	Plate no	signatures
M. Mustley	422	43	<i>M. Mustley</i>
ZUBAIR HUSSAIN	658	26	<i>Zubair Hussain</i>
SOHAIL KHALIL	64	119	<i>Sohail Khalil</i>
ZAFFRAN KHALIL		119	<i>Zaffran Khalil</i>

NAME	Badge	Plate	Signature
MOHAMMED ASIF	303	125	
MOHAMMED HUSSAIN	371	94	
NABEEL AHMED RACHORE	234	83	Nabeel
ADEEL " "	103	63	Adeel
SHAFIQ AHMED	290	134	
FARAZ	302	103	Fed
MR. ZULIFOOR MAHMOOD	462	106	
Mohammed Saif	60	164	
Mohammed FARHAD	55	021	
WASIM Abbas	92	46	
MOHID FISHOR	268	154	
AZHAR MOHAMMED	10	82	
MATEED ABDUL REHMAN	246	157	
SHAFIAD DAD	430	188	
Javed Iqbal. Dad.	146	188	
MOHAMMED AFZAL	233	02	M. Afzal
MOHAMMED. NABEEM	114	02	M. Abu
ASRAR AHMED	607	89	

Name	Badge no	Plate no	signatures
ASAD MANZOOR	197	145	Asad
MOHAMMED TAVAJD	487	129	Mohammed Tavajd
TAMIR ABID	241	156	Tamir
M. SALEEM	294	143	M. Saleem
N.E. RABBI	269	81	N.E. Rabbi
M. BASHIR	644	18	M. Bashir
Safar Ali. S. KHAN	484	41	Safar
M. SIDDIQUE	232	44	M. Siddique
MR S. HALDR	308	71	S. Haldr
F. Nadeem	358	70	F. Nadeem
M. MAROOF	638	120	M. Maroof
A-MEHMOUD	144	87	A-Mehmoud
M. N. UDDIN	124	202	M. N. Uddin
NAZRUL ISLAM	39	113	Nazrul Islam
ARSHAD MAHMOOD	418	39	Arshad Mahmood
MOHAMMED SALEEM ^{ZAMAN}		22	M. Saleem Zaman
NAEEM ZAFAR	61	102	Naeem Zafar
MOLAMMED NAZIB	550	116	Molammed Nazib
MOHAMMED YASIN	725	141	Mohammed Yasin
JAVED HUSSAIN	367	16	Javed Hussain
R. AHMED	489	137	R. Ahmed
M. YOUNIS	58	58	M. Younis
EMAL KHAN	473	101	Emal Khan
KAREMI	217	12	Karemi

Name	Badge no	Plate no	signatures
BUL ZAMMER	277	30	Gulamer
RAJA ADNAN YOUSAF	339	149	Adnan
WADAS MEHMOOD	323	122	W
HASSAN AKHTAR	377	028	Hassan
ZAFAR MATHWOOD	331	067	Zafar
M.W AHMED	32	153	M.W
M.B. ABRAH RATHIM	365	11	Abraham
ALI ASGHAR	383	147	A. Asghar
ZAKOOR AHMED	408	166	Zakoor
TAZ ALI		158	Taz
ABRAR AHMED		111	A. Ahmed
N. Ahmedi		152	N. Ahmedi
AFZALUDDIN		86	Afzal
IJAZ HUSSAIN	216	026	Ijaz
QASIM ABBAS	326	019	Qasim
TAFFAR TAYYAR	438	147	Taffar
NADEEM FARJAN	57		Nadeem
SYED ROUF	297	190	Rouf
S. HUSSAIN		53	S. Hussain
NADEEM AKHTAR	453	52	Nadeem

PS. This Pertition has the details of most of the drivers but some have not signed due to not being available. This letter and signatures is on behalf of all the drivers of south Bedfordshire i.e Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard.

Margaret James

To: ntd@btopenworld.com
Subject: RE: Consultation - feedback

Dear Claire and Nick

Apologies for the delay in replying to your e-mail, I have been on annual leave for the past couple of weeks.

I acknowledge your comments on the consultation which will be taken into account when the committee meets later this year. I shall, of course, contact you again to let you know the date of this meeting and you will be welcome to attend.

In the meantime, you may wish to note the following with regards to hackney carriage/private hire driver licences. The conditions attached to driver licences varies from authority to authority (it would be much easier if there were national standard conditions) and, as a consequence each authority must issue its own licence and badge. The law stipulates that drivers licensed by a particular authority can only drive a vehicle licensed by the same authority. Most authorities do, however, accept certain documentation i.e. medical certificates, CRB's (providing they are not too old) driving standards certificates and the like and this authority has always been happy to do so.

Kind Regards

Margaret James
Licensing Officer (Public Protection)
Central Bedfordshire Council

From: NTD Chauffeurs [mailto:ntd@btopenworld.com]
Sent: 03 August 2009 14:51
To: Margaret James
Subject: Consultation - feedback

Dear Margaret,

Further to your letter regarding new policies and conditions for hackney carriage and private hire licensing, I have detailed below some feedback and concerns for myself and Nick. Please do let me know if you would like to discuss any points further as we would be happy to do so. Apologies for the not sending this before the 1st August.

Drivers badges:

For those already holding a badge with a neighbouring authority:
Could they not submit and/or pay for the process which duplicate parts of their existing licence e.g. CRB checks, medicals? This will allow a more rapid and cost effective process to issuing a driver's badge license.

The restriction of one driver badge licence to drive vehicles in that same district (i.e one area) surely contravenes the right to work laws within this country? It also narrows the Operator's ability to assign work to persons on a part-time basis due to the cost incurred for several local driver badges.

The insurance companies issuing hire and reward insurance require drivers to be private hire licensed, not specific to the local authority.

Knowledge test:

We would request a separate group/licence is considered for chauffeur companies/private hire for the licensing conditions. The current knowledge test is not relevant to our business, as our client base continues outside the council district area and throughout the UK. Any theory test, should one be needed, should be

18/08/2009

based on a broader knowledge i.e. airports, and major attractions around the country, and not within the district boundaries, as these short journeys are covered by private hire and taxis, not chauffeur companies.

Private Hire vehicles:

With regard to the tyre tread depth required by private hire vehicles of 3mm:- To dispose of tyres at a council imposed tread depth of 3mm, when the legal limit is 1.6mm, is a wastage of 1.4mm (or 5 – 10,000 miles dependant on the vehicle). When our tyres cost from £150 – £250 inc VAT, to lose 30% of the tyre's life is a cost which has an impact on margins, and forcing our costs up, competing against neighbouring companies licensed with other districts. Also this is not very environmentally friendly, increasing our carbon footprint as a business and for the Authority as the legislator.

We would also request that MOT certificates completed by Kingsway testing station be inputted onto the DVLA database, the same as every other MOT qualified garage in the UK. This would then be on the database which is used by the Police and VOSA, should any spot checks be carried out on the vehicles. It would also allow for tax disc renewal to be completed on line, via the internet, rather than having to take all the documents to a Post Office, or Police station when required. Again this would save valuable time to the Operators whilst trying to run and manage a small business and maintain valuable, already tight margins.

We look forward to hearing from you on the new Central Bedfordshire policies.

Kind regards

Claire Reynolds and Nick Hopkins

Claire Reynolds

Director

NTD Chauffeur Services Ltd

Tel: 01525 384025

www.chauffeurdriven.org

This email has been scanned by the MessageLabs Email Security System.
For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>

18/08/2009

This page is intentionally left blank