



Vehicle Licence Renewals

We would like to remind you that Hackney Carriage Vehicles are due for renewal on Tuesday 30th September 2008 and Private Hire Vehicles are due for renewal of Friday 31st October 2008.

Application forms for renewals can be collected from this office or downloaded from our website at www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/stockton

To enable us to have your licence and plates available before your current licence expires your application should be submitted by Friday 19th September 2008 for Hackney Carriage Vehicles and by Wednesday 22nd October 2008 for Private Hire Vehicles.

If you do not have your new licence and plates before your current ones expire you will not be able to trade.

Proprietors who submit their applications by the requested date will be able to collect their new licences and plates between the hours of 5.30pm and 8.00pm on Tuesday 30th September 2008 for Hackney Carriage Licences and between the hours of 5.00pm and 7.30pm on Friday 31st October 2008 for Private Hire Licences.

Please remember your old plates (both front, rear and internal card) must be returned at the same time.

Taxi Trade Meeting

The next meeting for the Trade with Officers of the Council will be 12.30pm – 1.30pm, on Thursday 11th September 2008, at Stockton Central Library Lecture Hall, Church Road, Stockton on Tees.

If you have any items you wish to place on the Agenda please notify us in writing by Monday 8th September 2008.

Hackney Carriages Licensed Outside The Borough Taking Private Hire Bookings

We are aware of a number of Private Hire Operators who are using Hackney Carriage Vehicles and drivers licensed from outside the Stockton District. Those who ignore our previous advice and continue to use these vehicles for Private Hire work in Stockton will have enforcement action taken against them.

As previously explained in our February 2008 Newsletter, the law currently states that it is legal for Hackney Carriages to take fares from outside of their licensed district. However, the Department for Transport has recently given their view “that **hackney carriage drivers who carry out pre booked hirings in other licensing areas must be within their own licensing district when they agree the hirings.** This does provide their licensing authority a measure of control over them.” **After completing a booking these vehicles should return to their own licensed district before accepting another fare.**

Licensing Enforcement Officers will consider taking action against any Hackney Carriage Vehicle licensed by another authority found standing or plying for hire in Stockton.

Operators found using vehicles from outside the area that commit a standing or plying for hire offence will be put before the Licensing Committee and/or the Courts for appropriate sanctions to be imposed.

If you require any advice on the use of non Stockton licensed vehicles and/or drivers please feel free to have a chat with one of our Enforcement Officers at anytime on 01642 524802.

Dates to Remember:

- Hackney Carriage Vehicle Renewals
– Submit by 19/09/08
- Private Hire Vehicle Renewals
– Submit by 22/10/08