



## Trade Meeting

The majority of the trade will be aware of the protest drive around Stockton on Wednesday 23 August 2006 by the Stockton Hackney Carriage Drivers Association (SHCDA). The protest was about a number of points that I will attempt to summarise below:

1. Licensed vehicles operating illegally namely:
  - a. Parking on double yellow lines
  - b. Double parking
  - c. Driving the wrong way on one-way streets
  - d. Carrying out U-turns
  - e. Using bus lanes
  - f. Using set down areas as ranks
  - g. Driving in pedestrianised areas.
2. The private hire trade illegally taking customers away from the rank
3. That there is, in their opinion 120 too many licensed hackneys in Stockton and that they would like the Council to restrict numbers.

I share SHCDA's concern with any illegal activity being carried out by the licensed trade and would urge that drivers provide any evidence of illegal activity to this Office, the Police or our Parking Enforcement Team. Following the publication of this newsletter action will be taken against any drivers failing to comply with the law or their licence conditions without further warning.

In order to try and resolve some of the issues I am proposing to have a meeting with interested licensed drivers, vehicle proprietors, and operators to discuss these issues with all sectors of the trade. It is hoped that the Police, Highways and Parking Enforcement Officers will also be present. In order that a suitable venue can be arranged I would be grateful if you could complete the tear off slip below so that an admission ticket for the meeting can be sent to you in due course.

Admission to the meeting will be by ticket only so that an appropriate venue can be arranged and numbers can be controlled.

## Regulatory Services Enforcement Policy

The Council is currently reviewing it's Regulatory Services Enforcement Policy and would welcome any comments you may have about it. The proposed revised enforcement policy can be found on the Trading Standards & Licensing website at [www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/stockton](http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/stockton) Comments on the draft revised policy would be welcomed by Friday 6 October 2006.

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I would like to attend the meeting and would be obliged if you could send me an admission ticket.

Name	
Address	
Licensed Driver Number	
Licensed Vehicle Number	
Operator Number/Trading Name	

Please return this slip to:  
Trading Standards & Licensing, PO Box 232, 16 Church Road, Stockton on Tees TS18 1XD  
before 20<sup>th</sup> September 2006.

