

FARE BUSINESS

NEWS, INFORMATION
AND LEGISLATION
FOR BURNLEY TAXI
AND PRIVATE HIRE
TRADE AND USERS





Welcome to the second issue of FARE BUSINESS, the newsletter for the Burnley taxi and private hire trade and their users.

Its is also available online at www.burnley.gov.uk/farebusiness

Burnley Council's licensing unit has a number of licensing regulatory and registration powers and duties. It licences hackney carriages, private hire vehicles, drivers and operators. It also deals with the licensing and registrations of a wide range of people and premises including liquor licences, sex establishments and charitable collections.

A visit to www.burnley.gov.uk/business/licensing/taxi-and-private-hire will help guide you through any of the application processes and allow you to download all forms. Hard copies are also available from Contact Burnley in Parker Lane or by post, e-mail and telephone, as follows;

Licensing Unit,
1st Floor,
Parker Lane Offices,
Burnley,
BB11 2DT

T: 01282 425011
F: 01282 477306
E: licensing@burnley.gov.uk



COMPLIANCE CORNER

PLYING FOR HIRE OPERATION

During the Bank Holiday Weekend in August Lancashire Police conducted an enforcement operation around St. James Street, Burnley after an increasing number of complaints about private hire drivers plying for hire and contravening road traffic signs. A total of 55 fixed penalty tickets and 10 warning letters were issued.

STOP CHECK ENFORCEMENT

In October two further spot/check operations saw a total of 25 vehicles examined with 14 being suspended for two or more major faults.

One vehicle was subject of a PG9 notice from the VOSA examiner assisting the Police and suspended from use on the road.

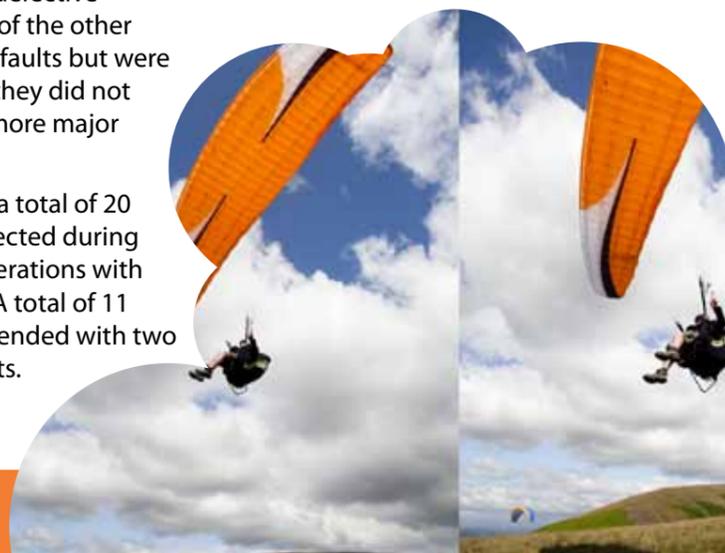
One fixed penalty was issued by the Police for a defective tyre offence. Eight of the other vehicles had other faults but were not suspended as they did not constitute two or more major faults.

During November a total of 20 vehicles were inspected during two spot check operations with Lancashire Police. A total of 11 vehicles were suspended with two or more major faults.

OTHER ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

One operator was convicted of failing to keep records in accordance with his licence and was fined £200 with £150 court costs.

One driver received a fixed penalty for smoking in an operating base and another driver was reported for touting at Tesco in Padiham.



QUALIFICATION TRAINING

Since July a total of 34 drivers have been contacted after failing to undergo their Qualification Training within 12 months of being licensed. The majority of drivers completed their training successfully through local colleges. Four drivers

surrendered their badges and three remain suspended after not completing the training. All drivers are reminded that there are currently two colleges offering training as follows: Accrington and Rossendale College.

Contact Peter Thomas on 01254 354401. Trinity Business Training at Salford City College. Contact Samantha Lindsay on 0161 631 5555.

DBS REMINDER

Since May the Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly CRB) no longer provide a copy of your check to Burnley Council. As a result drivers need to be aware that when they renew their Hackney Carriage

or Private Hire driving licences they need to bring in their copy of the check to Burnley Council when they receive it from the DBS. A check should normally take four weeks.

If you have any concerns or wish to discuss any DBS issue further then please contact Steve Hindle at Burnley Council on 01282 477267.

WARNING LETTERS

Since July 2007 a person who smokes in a smoke-free place commits an offence. During the last three months 11 operators

have received warning letters as a result of their staff being detected smoking in operating bases or their vehicles. One driver received a fixed

penalty for smoking in a private hire base. **Please remember that smoking is harmful to others.**

STEER CLEAR OF: ILLICIT TOBACCO

We also wish to warn taxi drivers about foreign-labelled tobacco. If you buy it, be aware that it is often counterfeit- which means you may get short weight packs (counterfeit packs marked 50g often weigh less than 25g!), with no quality control, useless filters, and varying tar levels. Surveys show that child smokers have easy access to illegal tobacco, which is often deliberately targeted at the young. If you are tempted

into selling illicit tobacco yourself, you will be committing criminal offences- selling counterfeit goods can carry ten years in prison and an unlimited fine- not really worth a few extra pounds in your pocket.

Lancashire County Council prosecutes around 30 East Lancashire tobacco sellers a year, and we would hate you to be one of that number.

If you do know of anyone supplying dodgy tobacco, and aren't thrilled at having criminals on your doorstep, how about giving Crimestoppers a ring anonymously on 0800 555 111

If there is anything else you want to refer to Trading Standards you can give the Citizens' Advice Consumer Helpline a ring on 08454 04 05 06.

LOAN SHARKS

We are warning drivers and their families about loan sharks, who often step up their activities on the run-up to Christmas. It can be harder to access credit when your job brings in differing amounts of money each month, and it may seem tempting to put a smile on your children's faces, or pay that heating bill, with a loan from that "friend of a friend" who seems to know everyone.

The reality is that you may find yourself in spiralling debt, with no paperwork, no idea of the interest you are paying, or for how long you will be making repayments. Some people are still in debt years later, having paid back the original loan many times over, but are intimidated into continuing the payments.

If you are in debt to an unlicensed moneylender, and were given no paperwork, you may not have to legally pay anything back.

If you think that you are in debt to a loan shark, or have any information about one operating in your area, please call the confidential hotline on 0300 555 2222, or text LOAN SHARK and the lender's details to 60003.

REMOVAL OF PROHIBITION FOR... PRIVATE CARS, TAXIS, MOTOR CYCLES AND LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES

READ THE PROHIBITION NOTICE CAREFULLY.

Make an appointment at an appropriate MOT testing station for an MOT test. The vehicle must meet annual test standard in all respects and a PASS certificate (VT20 or VT20W) obtained.

An annual test fee will be charged by the MOT test station. Take the PASS certificate and the Prohibition Notice to any MAIN Police Station where a 'Removal of Prohibition Notice' will be issued.

Forward a copy of the removal of prohibition notice to the following address:-

RTE Office
Kirkham HGVTS, Freckleton Road
Kirkham, Preston, PR4 2RP

FAILURE TO FORWARD A COPY OF THE REMOVAL OF PROHIBITION NOTICE WITHIN 14 DAYS WILL GENERALLY RESULT IN COMMENCEMENT OF PROSECUTION ACTION.

REMEMBER: THE PROHIBITION STAYS IN FORCE UNTIL A REMOVAL OF PROHIBITION NOTICE IS ISSUED

APPROVED TAXI TEST STATIONS IN BURNLEY

Lancashire County Engineering Services
Brindley Close, Network 65 Business Park, Hapton, Burnley
01282 448873
Open: Mon - Fri 7.30am - 2.45pm
Sat 7am - 10am

Bates Car and Commercial,
Park Road, Padiham, BB12 7AN
01282 779993
Fax: 01282 773106
Open: Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm
Sat 8am - 1pm

Evans Halshaw
Eastern Avenue, Burnley BB10 2AP
01282 425991
Mob: 07855 313 383
simon.hackney@evanshalshaw.com
Open: Mon - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm
Sat 8.30am - 12.30pm

Marshall's Motor Engineers
Unit C2 Farrington Close, Burnley, BB11 5SH
01282 428100
sales.marshalls@live.co.uk
Fax: 01282 459167
Open: Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm
Sat 8am - 12pm

CK Motors
Unit 7 Chestnut Business Park, Smallshaw Lane, Burnley BB11 5SQ
01282 455702
ck@ckmotors.co.uk
Fax: 0872 1105 476
Open: Sun - Fri 8.30am - 10pm
Sat 8.30am - 12pm



PERMITTED SIGNAGE ON PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

Any vehicle that does not conform to the specification shown below will fail the compliance test

The vehicle must be fitted with the following signs:

(i) On saloon cars, estate cars and MPVs a sign on both nearside and offside front doors must be displayed

- and contain the following information: the name of the firm, the words 'Private Hire' and the firm's telephone number
- The sign may also include the firm's website and/or email address
- The word 'TAXI' must not be used on any sign displayed on a Private Hire vehicle
- Such signs may be affixed by magnetic or permanent means and shall not be less than 30cm X 20cm but can, if desired, cover the whole of the front door.

(ii) A yellow sign on both nearside and offside rear doors with the words 'PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE insurance invalid unless you pre-book this vehicle with a private hire firm' to be permanently fixed

(iii) Vehicles can be fitted with a sign at the rear of the vehicle, such to be between 5cm and 10cm in height and 1 metre in width, giving only the name of the firm's, their email or website address and telephone number.

- The word 'TAXI' must not be used on this sign
- Any further signs either to be displayed internally or externally which Burnley Council in its absolute discretion may from time to time require
- In addition to the above, minibuses may be sign written and include corporate livery



Permitted signage on Hackney Carriages

Hackney carriages may display advertisements that cover the whole of the vehicle but not including any glass surface. Advertisements may also be placed on the drop down seats located in the rear of vehicles.

The following adverts will not be approved:

- a) Those containing texts or images that are of a sexist, homophobic, racist, or blasphemous nature
- b) Those containing texts or images that would contravene age and disability discrimination legislation
- c) Those for escort agencies, gaming establishments, massage parlours or any sexual service
- d) Those displaying nude or semi-nude figures
- e) Those likely to offend public taste (depicting violence, obscene or distasteful language)
- f) Those that promote drugs, alcohol or tobacco



R A P E

SHORT WORD, LONG SENTENCE

NO CONSENT = NO SEX

If you wish to speak to someone contact:

NHS Direct

Lancashire Constabulary



/lancspolice



@LancsPolice

999 in an emergency for both services



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

lancashire.police.uk/operation-nexus

ORAL/SMOKELESS TOBACCO USE AND ITS RISKS TO HEALTH

Smoking rates across East Lancashire are higher than the national average and many smokers are aware of the health risks associated with this habit.

However, there are many communities who traditionally use tobacco in Paan and Gutkha without realising that this can have a serious impact on oral health, as well as increasing their risk of developing life-threatening diseases such as cancer.

Cultural beliefs suggest that Paan can be a remedy for common, minor ailments such as indigestion, stress and toothache and users therefore presume that the oral/smokeless tobacco used in Paan must be less harmful than smoking tobacco.

However, tobacco in all its forms whether smoked as a cigarette, inhaled from a Hookah pipe or chewed in the mouth increases the user's chance of developing cancers throughout the body.

All tobacco is extremely addictive and harmful so it is advisable to stop or cut down tobacco use as well as ensure that children and young people are not exposed to it.

The local NHS Stop Smoking Service provides free advice and support to anyone who would like to quit – 01254 283370 or free on 0800 328 6297.

If you do use oral/smokeless tobacco and notice any of these symptoms which have lasted for more than three weeks, you must visit your dentist or doctor:

- A sore or ulcer inside your mouth or your tongue
- A lump anywhere in your mouth or neck
- A red or white patch in your mouth
- An unexplained pain in your mouth or ear
- Numbness in your tongue or mouth
- A very sore throat or hoarse voice
- A persistent blocked nose

(For help finding NHS dentist call 0845 5333230)

If you would like further information or would like support in stopping please contact Peter Pendlebury at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, Health Improvement Service on 01254 358026 or email: peter.pendlebury@lancashirecare.nhs.uk



HACKNEY CARRIAGE CONDITIONS OF FITNESS

This policy document went before the licensing committee on the 28th November 2013 and will go to full council on 5th December 2013.

This policy will determine the new age limit of hackney carriages and define what vehicles are acceptable to the fleet from 1st January 2014.

Any changes to our hackney carriage policy are subject to approval by full council.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

BURNLEY COUNCIL
LICENSING UNIT,
1ST FLOOR,
PARKER LANE OFFICES,
BURNLEY, BB11 2DT
TEL: 01282 425011

EMAIL: LICENSING@BURNLEY.GOV.UK

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