

LICENSING TEAM

Southampton and Eastleigh Licensing Partnership

Eastleigh Borough Council

Eastleigh House

Upper Market Street, Eastleigh

SO50 9YN

Direct dial: 023 8254 5376

Our ref: UPDATES

E-mail:

Please ask for:

licensing@eastleigh.gov.uk

Mr. Andy Jeffery



Dated 11th October 2024

INFORMATION FOR THE TRADE

DROPPING OFF BLUE BADGE HOLDER PASSENGERS AT SOUTHAMPTON AIRPORT.

With regards to the issue dropping off Blue Badge Holder passengers at Southampton Airport which was raised by the Hackney Trade Reps, this was raised by Eastleigh Borough Councillors with the airport management. We have received the following information from the airport.

It has now been decided to provide Blue Badge holders complimentary drop-off when arriving by a taxi that proceeds through the car park, with this process:

- Taxi enters the multi-storey car park and then is to proceed round to the customer service kiosk that is located near the exit barriers.
- The customer may then present the Blue Badge to staff who will validate the taxi vehicle registration. The driver has 30 minutes to drop off the passenger and provide assistance.
- The driver then may proceed to the drop-off zone, which is easily done by driving past the exit barriers and back to the channel at the start.
- The exit barrier will automatically raise within the 30 minutes time allowed.

Thank you to the trade reps for flagging this issue initially & Councillor Pretty & Councillor Duguid for taking this up with the Airport.

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE FEES AND CHARGES.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 70

Variation of Fees for Vehicle, Driver & Operator Licences

Eastleigh Borough Council, as licensing authority for Hackney Carriages, Private Hire vehicles and Private Hire operators in the Borough of Eastleigh, hereby gives notice that it proposes to vary the fees for the grant and renewal of driver, vehicle and operator licences as follows:

	Current fee	Proposed Fee
Hackney Carriage Driver Licence – 3 year		
Grant or Renewal	£182.00 including badges	£190.00 + badges – total £208.00
Private Hire Driver Licence – 3 year		
Grant or Renewal	£182.00 including badges	£190.00 + badges – total £208.00
Hackney Carriage (annual)		
Grant or Renewal	£180.00 including plate	£200.00 plus plate
Private Hire Vehicle (annual)		
Grant or Renewal	£180.00 including plate	£190.00 plus plate
HC/PH Transfer of Licence (vehicle)	£60.00	£35.00
HC/PH Change of Vehicle	£60.00	£35.00 + plate
HC/PH Temporary Licensed Vehicle	£90.00 including plate	£90.00 + plate

If you require this letter or future correspondence from us in a different format (e.g. tape, Braille or disc) please do not hesitate to let us know.

(2 months)		
Private Hire Operator (maximum five years)		
Grant or Renewal (five years)	£365.00	£565.00
Licence Ancillaries		
Vehicle Plate (HC & PHV)	£10.00	£15.00
PH Vehicle EBC Door Signs	£8.00	£10.00
Driver Badge (for display in vehicle)	£6.00	£8.00
Driver Badge (worn by driver)	£10.00	£10.00
Replacement Licence – (driver or vehicle)	£5.00	£10.00
Replacement Compliance Certificate	£0.00	£10.00
VIP Plate Holder	£12.00	£15.00
New driver knowledge test	£15.00	£40.00
English and Maths Test	included in above Knowledge test	included in above Knowledge test
DBS Enhanced Check	£38.00	£38.00
DVLA Driving Licence Check - cost over a 3r licence paid to Taxi Plus to cover the cost of the service from them	£5.00	£14.40
DBS Update Service - cost over a 3r licence paid to licensing to cover the cost from TaxiPlus	£0.00	£21.60
Safeguarding Training	£0	£30.00
Admin Fee	£25.00	£25.00

A copy of this notice will be available for public inspection at The Licensing Office, Eastleigh House, Upper Market Street, Eastleigh SO50 9YN for a period of twenty-eight days commencing on 9th October 2024

Any person wishing to object to these proposals must do so in writing by 7th November 2024 to:

Email: licensing.consultation@eastleigh.gov.uk

Post: The Senior Licensing Officer, Eastleigh House, Upper Market Street Eastleigh SO50 9YN
Any objections made will be in the public domain and may be published by the council.

If no objections are made or those made are withdrawn before the expiry of this notice, the varied fees above will come into effect on 1st December 2024. If objections are made and not withdrawn the Head of Legal will consider the objections before determining the fees which will then take effect from 1st December 2024.

11th October 2024

Amanda Bancroft
Head of Legal

A couple of explanations for the above fees

Transfer and Change of Vehicle Fee	Currently if a transfer or change of the vehicle attached to the licence is submitted with a renewal application, they only pay the renewal fee not the transfer or COV fee as well. Doing two applications does increase the officer time but does not warrant a further £60.00 fee. A more justifiable fee for 2nd application would be £35.00. If COV then a new plate is required with a fee of £15.00. If a transfers of licence or COV submitted will attract a £35.00 (+ plate if COV)
New Driver Knowledge Test	Now includes a maths test and verbal communication with an officer testing the applicants understanding and communication of the English language. This requires more officer time. (Comparison SCC charge £50.00 and are looking to increase this again)
DVLA Licence Check	There is an initial full check carried out with a fee of £5.00. Annually thereafter a licensing officer carries out a basic online DVLA check for each licensed driver. The driver must provide a DVLA share code.

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	<p>Sending out reminder letters, chasing the share code when they do not provide this and carrying out the check is officer time intensive. Outsourcing this to Taxi Plus we will be notified immediately any driver receives any penalty points or when any warning markers are on their DVLA record. This will promote public safety and allow the licensing authority to take any required action promptly. This will also free up much needed officer time to cope with the demand of new driver/vehicle applications and renewals along with the increase of required checks to be carried out. The fee of £4.80 a year (£14.40 over the 3 year licence) is paid by the applicant to the supplier direct on signup.</p>
6 Monthly DBS Update Checks	<p>A requirement every 6 months. This is carried out by an officer and is officer time intensive. Often, we find the drivers subscription has not been renewed or there is an issue with their record. This would mean the driver is in breach of licence conditions and would need to be suspended until such time a new DBS can be applied for and signed up to the DBS update service. With outsourcing the 6 monthly checks to TaxiPlus the licensing authority will be notified immediately there is any issue or change to the drivers DBS record. This could save the driver being in breach of the licence conditions, suffering from a suspension, promote public safety and free up valuable officer time for other requirements and checks without the need for more officers. Our cost is charged to the driver.</p>
Safeguarding Training	<p>Mandatory DFT requirement. Currently the driver pays the training provider direct. The fee of £30.00 for the training is deducted from the driver licence fee when paid so the training is provided free of charge to everyone. At year end the total amount deducted from the licence fees is transferred from the reserve account and added to the years income. To protect the reserve account for future expenditure the proposal requires the driver to pay the safeguarding fee.</p>

PROPOSED HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES

You will have received an email from us regarding a request we have received from the trade for an increase in the meter rate. My apologies for the I.T error on the body of the main email which included lots of number between words. I think the Database was having a bad day!

For clarification, these are the correct figures

Current Tariff ONE - per miles travelled

This table represents costs of journeys with no stopping time added in Tariff one . Nearly every journey will include time when the vehicle is considered to be stopped.						
½ a mile	1 mile	2 miles	3 miles	4 miles	5 miles	10 miles
£4.00	£5.20	£7.40	£9.60	£11.80	£14.00	£25.00

Proposed Tariff ONE - per miles travelled

This table represents costs of journeys with no stopping time added in Tariff one. Nearly every journey will include time when the vehicle is considered to be stopped.						
1/2 mile	1 mile	2 miles	3 miles	4 miles	5 miles	10 miles
£4.60	£5.80	£8.40	£11.00	£13.60	£16.20	£29.20

Current Tariff TWO – per miles travelled

This table represents costs of journeys with no stopping time added in Tariff two. Nearly every journey will include time when the vehicle is considered to be stopped.						
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1/2 mile	1 mile	2 miles	3 miles	4 miles	5 miles	10 miles
£4.55	£6.05	£9.05	£12.05	£15.05	£18.05	33.05

Proposed Tariff TWO - per miles travelled

This table represents costs of journeys with no stopping time added in Tariff two. Nearly every journey will include time when the vehicle is considered to be stopped.						
1/2 mile	1 mile	2 miles	3 miles	4 miles	5 miles	10 miles
£4.90	£6.30	£9.45	£12.60	£15.75	£18.90	£34.65

Additional Charges

More than 4 passengers - From £1.00 per person per hiring to £2.00 per person per hiring.

Soiling Charge – From £70.00 to £80.00

Proposed Tariff one day rate - Fares between 7am and 11pm

- (a) For the first one thirteenth of a mile or part thereof: **£3.40**
 (b) For each subsequent one thirteenth of a mile or part thereof **£0.20**
 (c) Waiting Time - For each period of one minute or part thereof **£0.35**

Proposed Tariff Two – Night rate between 11pm and 7am, Sundays, Bank Holidays, and from 8pm Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve

- (d) For the first one ninth of a mile or part thereof: **£3.50**
 (e) For each subsequent one ninth of a mile or part thereof **£0.35**
 (f) Waiting Time - For each period of one minute or part thereof **£0.35**

Proposed Tariff Three – Fares during Christmas/Boxing Day and from midnight New Year’s Eve until 7am New Year’s day are twice the rate of Tariff one

- (g) For the first one thirteenth of a mile or part thereof: **£6.80**
 (h) For each subsequent one thirteenth of a mile or part thereof **£0.40**
 (i) Waiting Time - For each period of one minute or part thereof **£0.60**

DRIVER DRESS CODE.

Complaints have started to be submitted regarding the appearance of some drivers. As you are all aware there is a dress code. For private hire drivers this is on page 2 of the private hire driver policy and conditions. For hackney carriage drivers this is in the Driver Code of Conduct which the hackney carriage driver policy states you must adhere to the driver code of conduct. These are readily available on the website but for clarification the dress code is as follows-

“Appearance of Driver”.

This is not intended to discriminate or control people, rather to provide a standard policy where no member of the public travelling is made to feel uncomfortable by a driver whose choice of clothing may be inappropriate. The dress code is there to convey a professional appearance, thereby improving people’s confidence of choosing licenced vehicles as a preferred mode of transportation and principally to protect the public and driver. This policy is not gender specific and is subjective. The driver of a Hackney Carriage shall be clean and tidy in appearance and shall be attired to a standard acceptable to the Council.

Drivers shall:

- (a) pay attention to personal hygiene and dress so as to present a professional image to the public;
- As a minimum clothing should be clean, smart casual in appearance with shoes.
 - **Acceptable clothing** - will include long or short-sleeved shirts with collars, blouse, polo shirts, long trousers, skirts, tailored shorts, dresses, shoes. Smart black jeans that are not frayed, torn or with logos etc will be permitted.
 - **Unacceptable clothing** - Jeans (excluding above), singlets, shorts or bathing costumes, jogging pants, flip flops, high heels, trainers, sandals, ripped or dirty clothes.

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HACKNEY CARRIAGE ROOF SIGNS

A reminder to everyone now the hours of darkness are getting longer, when available for hire within the Borough of Eastleigh which includes standing for hire on a Rank, hackney carriage roof signs should be illuminated. I have warned several drivers recently. Enforcement action will be considered on the second occasion you are observed.

DRIVER ID BADGES

This is a reminder that all drivers are required to wear their ID badge when working so it is easily visible. A second ID badge must be displayed in a prominent position in the vehicle. If you still have the old style larger badge to wear, contact us and request one of the new smaller ID badges. A fee will be due for the replacement. Only one warning will be issued to any driver not wearing their badge or displaying one in the vehicle before enforcement action will be considered. Drivers of vehicles with an executive exemption are not required to wear their badge.

Finally thank you to you all for assisting and supporting Sue and I over the last couple of months whilst we are a full time member of the licensing team short. It's been a stressful time for us but our priority will always be keeping you all on the road.

Yours sincerely



Andy Jeffery
Senior Licensing Officer
Licensing Team
Southampton & Eastleigh Licensing Partnership
Eastleigh Borough Council

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