

**Report of the Service Director to the  
General Licensing Regulatory Board  
to be held on the 24 October 2018**

**ENFORCEMENT UPDATE**

**1. Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report, is to provide Members with an overview of the work Licensing Enforcement Officers have undertaken to date.

**2. Background**

Members are minded to note, that since the last enforcement update, Licensing Enforcement Officers have continued to proactively embark on a number of licensing enforcement operations. A summary of enforcement operations undertaken are detailed below.

**3. Current Position**

On the 18 September 2018 Licensing Enforcement Officers alongside Vehicle Examiners from the Smithies Lane Depot, took part in a day time operation focusing their attention at Springwell School and the drivers and vehicles that are contracted to transport children to the school on a daily basis.

In total 31 licensed vehicles were inspected, the results of which are detailed as follows:

- 26 vehicles found to be compliant

5 vehicles were issued with immediate suspension notices for defects including

- Rear stop light inoperative x2
- Rear stop light inoperative and both rear indicators flashing white
- Inoperative front side lights
- Tyre below the legal limit

In addition 2 drivers received written warnings for failing to complete their daily vehicle checks.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 Licensing Enforcement Officers alongside Vehicle Examiners from the Smithies Lane Depot, HMRC, South Yorkshire Police and Barnsley Safer Neighbourhood Teams took part in the multi-agency Operation Duxford. This was a day time operation involving Enforcement Officers from various Council Departments and South Yorkshire Police. Licensing Officers and South Yorkshire Police focused their attention on Private Hire and Hackney Carriage vehicles and drivers in the Town Centre.

In total 14 licensed vehicles were stopped and inspected, the results of which are detailed as follows:

- 11 vehicles found to be compliant

2 vehicles were issued with immediate suspension notices for defects including

- Rear side light inoperative and the private hire plate was incorrectly displayed in the rear window
- Rear number plate light inoperative and the vehicle needed cleaning

In addition an unlicensed vehicle was stopped and inspected and Officers removed a Rotherham Private Hire sign. The details of which have been referred back to Rotherham Council for action.

In addition 1 driver received a written warnings for failing to complete their daily vehicle checks.

#### **4. Proposal**

Vehicle non-compliance is not just an issue Officers are concerned with during the undertaking of each and every enforcement operation; it is one that continues to be at the forefront of every Vehicle Examiners mind. Defective vehicles are not acceptable and cannot be excused, coupled with failing to complete basic vehicle inspection sheets, an inspection sheet that not only the Trade requested to complete but a tool that ensures the very safety of a licensed vehicle, is not acceptable.

Licensing Officers along with vehicle examiners will continue to carry out proactive enforcement operations throughout the year to ensure both vehicle

and driver compliance and convey the message that operators, vehicle proprietors and drivers must accept responsibility for their failures and make a change.

Failure to do so, will only continue to put the safety of the public at risk when using a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle in Barnsley.

After all, the principal consideration here must be one of public safety.

**5. Background Papers**

Enforcement Officer Reports which contain exempt information are not available for public inspection

**6. Officer Contact**

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