

**Report of the Service Director to the  
General Licensing Regulatory Board  
to be held on the 20 February 2019**

**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 31 January 2019 Licensing Enforcement Officers alongside Vehicle Examiners from the Smithies Lane Depot, took part in Operation Duxford as part of a Police led operation accompanied by the DVSA and Customs and Excise they carried out checks on licensed drivers and vehicles in Barnsley town centre. The Chair of the Regulatory Board Councillor C Wraith MBE was also in attendance.

In total 9 licensed private hire vehicles were inspected, the results of which are detailed as follows:

- 8 vehicles found to be compliant

1 vehicle was not displaying the correct door signs as required by condition 5 of his private hire vehicle licence which states:-

***The vehicle when working must display on its front doors the words "Private Hire Vehicle Advanced Booking Only" and must display on the rear offside and near side doors/panel of the vehicle the operator's trade***

**or business name and telephone number. No other signs or words whatsoever shall be displayed.**

The driver of this vehicle received a written warning.

In addition 3 drivers also received written warnings for:

- Failing to complete their daily check books

#### **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 begin to 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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