

CLEAN AIR ZONE:

As you may have seen, there was an announcement this week relating to the implementation of the Clean Air Zone.

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/news/article/433/joint_statement_from_birmingham_city_council_and_leeds_city_council_regarding_clean_air_zone_delays

This means the Clean Air Zone will not start until July 2020 at the earliest.

This **DOES NOT** affect the licensing policies. Whilst policies were amended to accommodate the requirements of the Clean Air Zone, they are not directly linked. It is still essential that we proceed with the policies as already agreed. What this **does** mean, is that drivers of licensed vehicles which *would have* been required to pay the CAZ charge from January will now not have to pay until July at the earliest.

The delay is the result of delays from the Government regarding payment systems and the vehicle checker.

All other work to progress the Clean Air Zone – including the administration of the funding packages available will continue unaffected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Moratorium on issue of HC Vehicle licences.

In June the Licensing and Public Protection Committee agreed there should be an exemption to the moratorium on the issuing of HC vehicle licences as follows:

A limited exemption can be allowed for proprietors of hackney carriage vehicles who surrender or allow their vehicle licence to expire between 1 January 2019 and 1 January 2021, to the effect they may apply for the grant of a new hackney carriage vehicle licence irrespective of any moratorium requirement, so long as the applicant meets all of the qualifying criteria at 5.3 i to iii. The vehicle must be of a suitable type and all licensing prerequisites applicable at the time of licensing must be complied with as detailed at 5.3 iv to vi.

- i. The applicant must be a hackney carriage proprietor who held a current, valid hackney carriage vehicle licence between 1 January 2019 and 1 January 2021. Entitlement to request a new issue hackney carriage plate cannot be transferred to any other party.
- ii. The licence in question must have expired or been surrendered between those dates. There will be no entitlement to request issue of a new licence if the original vehicle was sold and/or the licence was transferred to another proprietor.
- iii. The transaction must be completed within 24 calendar months to the day of the surrender or expiry of the original licence. Any attempt to obtain a licence after that period, will be treated as a normal grant request and dealt with according to the normal requirements of a

grant application, including any restrictions on the issue of new plates applicable at the time of the new application.

Issue Requirements

- iv. A new issue hackney carriage vehicle licence can be issued for a suitable vehicle qualifying as a replacement for the last vehicle associated with the expired or surrendered licence, subject to compliance with the replacement vehicle policies and any requirements of the CAZ applicable at the time of application.
- v. The transaction will be a new licence application and the fees charged will be those appropriate to a new licence application at the time of the transaction.
- vi. All normal requirements for the issue of a licence will apply, including but not limited to MOT, insurance, log book, age and emission standards applicable at the time of the transaction.

SIGNAGE

In July the Licensing and Public Protection Committee will consider the report on the signage review. Once the signage policy is approved this will enable the revised conditions from drivers, vehicles and operators to take effect (for all licences granted/renewed after the agreed implementation date).

TRADE LIAISON MEETINGS

Please note – owing to recent events the arrangements for trade liaison are currently under review.

In the interim, if you have issues you would like clarified or addressed, please can you email with clear details of your query. It is not always possible to respond immediately, but you will receive a response.