

Taxi and Private Hire Newsletter February 2018

Taxi Meters

The new taxi fares came into force on 1 February 2018. If you have a hackney carriage vehicle licence you should have received the new fare card. Don't forget to display it in the vehicle once your meter has been updated. Your meter fitter will provide you with a meter certificate showing that your meter is set at the new rates. **Please email a copy of your meter certificate to us now or bring it in next time you visit the Council Offices.** If we haven't seen your meter certificate we will be chasing you for it when you next renew.

Stroud Station Masterplan

Stroud Town Council have asked a private company called **Integrated Transport Planning** to come up with suggestions on how to improve the Stroud Train Station forecourt and how it links with the rest of the town. **Integrated Transport Planning** want to involve all stakeholders including the taxi and private hire trade. They welcome your views on the location of taxi bays in Stroud and how they fit in with accessing the Station. They are interested in what makes a location better for use as a taxi bay from the point of view of both taxis and customers. There are currently taxi bays in Stroud in King Street, Kendrick Street and Cornhill as well as the GWR permit bays at the front of the Station, they are keen to understand why some are used more than others. You can forward your comments or ask any questions by emailing **Sandy Moller** at **Integrated Transport Planning** on moller@itpworld.net.

Vehicle Age Policy

The vehicle age policy came in on 1 April 2017. If you are changing your vehicle or applying for a new licence the vehicle must be less than 5 years old. We go by the date on the registration document.

The policy for renewal is that the vehicle must not be more than 10 years old.

If you have an older vehicle that was already licensed on 1 April 2017 we have given you grandfather rights for 2 years. This means we will not start to refuse renewals for vehicles that are over 10 years old until 1 April 2019. After 1 April 2019 you will still be able to use an older vehicle right up until it's next renewal is due. At this point you will need to change it for one that is less than 5 years old, otherwise the renewal will be refused.

Proposed Increase in Application Fees from 1 April 2018

We have reviewed our taxi and private hire application fees and we need to make some increases to ensure that they cover our administration costs. The application fees have not been put up since 2015 . We are proposing to increase the fees from 1 April 2018 as shown below. The increases only effect new and renewal applications, all the other types of applications are remaining unchanged. In accordance with taxi and private hire legislation we must advertise proposed increases in application fees. A notice will be in Stroud News and Journal and Dursley Gazette in the week commencing 12th February 2018. If you have any objections or comments about the changes in the application fees please tell us by emailing licensing@stroud.gov.uk or by putting it in writing to us by **19 March 2018**.

Proposed Taxi and Private Hire Fees from 1 April 2018		
Licence Type	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Drivers (Hackney and Private Hire)		
Driver licence – New Application 1 year	£155	£160
Driver licence – New Application 3 year	£255	£265
Driver licence – Renewal 1 year	£75	£80
Driver licence – Renewal 3 year	£190	£200
Knowledge Test Multiple Choice	£60	£60
*DVLA check	£5	£5
*DBS check	£56	£56
Replacement Badge	£10.50	£10.50
Vehicles (Hackney Carriage and Private Hire)		
Vehicle Licence - New Application 1 Year (inc plate)	£150	£160
Vehicle Licence - Renewal 1 year	£120	£125
Transfer (ownership or HC to PHV) of vehicle licence	£30	£30
Change of Vehicle	£45	£45
Change of Registration of Vehicle	£25	£25
Replacement plate	£13	£13
Bracket	£11	£11
Plate Deposit	£25	£25
Private Hire Plate Exemption	£50	£50
Private Hire Plate Exemption Renewal	£25	£25
Operator (Private Hire)		
Operator New App 1 year	£125	£140
Operator New App 5 year	£400	£430
Operator Renewal 1 year	£100	£110
Operator Renewal 5 year	£380	£380
* Fees paid to external agencies for driver checks and are subject to change		

Contact Us:

If you want to come in and see us please ring and make an appointment first. We are not available for calls or appointments on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons after 12.00. You can also contact us by email.

Telephone: 01453 754440 Email: licensing@stroud.gov.uk Web: www.stroud.gov.uk/taxis