

# *Tendring District Council*

## *Taxi News*

*January 2022*

### **Licensing Office Move**

We would like to inform you that our Licensing Office has moved from Pier Avenue. We are now based at the Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton on Sea, CO15 1SE. All telephone numbers and e-mail contacts will remain the same.

As is the normal practice, the Licensing Office is only available to those who have a pre-booked appointment. Please note that the reception staff will be unable to assist you.

### **Hackney Carriage Fare Increase - Update**

We are pleased to confirm that the Hackney Carriage Fare Increase request has now been approved by the Council's Licensing and Registration Committee on 17 January 2022.

This will come into **effect from 15 February 2022** a copy of the new fare tariff is included with this newsletter to enable you to make the necessary updates to your taxi meters.

### **Taxi Meter Updates – Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday Dates**

This coming calendar year sees the addition of the jubilee bank holiday, celebrating the Queen's platinum Jubilee on the 2nd & 3rd June 2022. This will mean that some calendar controlled taxi meters may need to be updated with the new dates in order for the meters to charge bank holiday rates on those given dates.

Please liaise with your local taximeter agent who will make sure that the meters are updated correctly.

### **Making Tendring Safer - Safe Night Out in Tendring**



The Licensing team are working with the Tendring Community Safety Partnership and Essex Police on the campaign for a safe night out in Tendring.

Part of the campaign is to encourage the public to call and use a licensed taxi and we are asking for your help in advertising this.

In order to promote this, the Licensing Team have been given some A6 window cling signs which can be displayed on any of the passenger windows in your taxi.

If you would like to join us in this campaign and display one of these signs, please could you email [taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk) with your plate number and request.

Please note that there is a limited number of signs available and will be sent out on first come first serve basis.

## **County Lines Awareness**

Enclosed with your taxi newsletter you will find a letter produced by Essex Police regarding County Lines Awareness. It gives information on how you can spot signs of exploitation and how you can report them.

## **Taxi Ranks**

The Licensing Office are receiving complaints of fumes from the taxis left idling whilst on taxi ranks and noise/shouting from one vehicle to another, we therefore ask that while you are waiting on any of the taxi ranks in the Tendring area to respect residents and members of the public. Please turn off your vehicle engines and keep the noise down to a bare minimum.

It has also been noticed that a number of drivers stop and talk to each other in their vehicles side by side. Please pull up in the allocated taxi rank and not block the road access for other drivers. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## **Applications/Documents/Payments**

Applications should be submitted via e-mail ([licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:licensingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk) or [taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk)) payments can be made over the telephone using either a credit or debit card.

Please ensure that the email document is no larger than 25mb as these are unable to pass the Council's email security system.

For drivers who still wish to post their applications/documents please ensure that these are sent via Royal Mail to the Town Hall address mentioned above **and not through the post boxes located at Pier Avenue or the Town Hall** as this will result in a delay of the team receiving your documents and unnecessary reminder letters being sent. All post received through Royal Mail is scanned to the team by TDC in order to reduce delay. Any paperwork you are waiting for will then be sent to you as soon as practicable and any delays should be minimal.

## **How to pay fees**

Please ensure that you either pay online using the TDC website, or phone the office on 01255 68 6565 to pay. You will need your invoice number for both methods of payment.

If you are unable to pay by credit/debit card then cheques can still be posted to the Licensing Team via Royal Mail. Please note that cheques are taking approximately 4 weeks to be processed.

With effect from 1 December 2021 Tendring District Council licensing office are no longer able to accept cash payments, we are however still able to accept cheques, postal orders and credit/debit card payments.

## **COVID-19 and Face Coverings**

May you be reminded that face coverings should still be worn in taxis, unless you are exempt. Even after you have received a vaccine, you should continue to follow the guidance on how to travel safely when in a taxi or private hire vehicle.

- You should encourage the use of contactless payment if possible.
- Where possible open windows for ventilation when in the vehicle.
- Wash or sanitise your hands regularly.

Be aware of the surfaces that are touched by you and your passengers. Be careful not to touch your face. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or the inside of your elbow when coughing or sneezing.

Stay up to date with the guidance for taxis by viewing the website below:



[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): taxis and PHVs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-taxis-and-phvs)

## **TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **FARE TARIFF TO TAKE EFFECT 15 FEBRUARY 2022**

- 1. MILEAGE**
  - (a) If the distance does not exceed 185 yards for the whole distance **£3.00**
  - (b) For each subsequent 185 yards or uncompleted part thereof in addition to (a) above **.20**
  
- 2. WAITING TIME**

For each period of 60 seconds or uncompleted part thereof **.30**
  
- 3. EXTRA CHARGES**
  - (a) For hirings throughout Sundays and throughout all Bank and Public Holidays **One-half of the**  
and for hirings commencing after Midnight and before 6 a.m. Mondays to **above rate of fare**  
Saturdays inclusive  
  
**Note: When the Bank and Public Holiday charge is payable,**  
**the Sunday and night charges are not payable**
  - (b) For each article of luggage conveyed **.20**  
[Luggage means suitcases or trunks but not smaller items such as a briefcase or carrier bag]
  - (c) For each person in excess of one **.20**
  - (d) For each bicycle or non-folding pram **.20**
  
- 4. MULTI-SEAT VEHICLES**

When used to carry more than 4 passengers or a greater amount of luggage than **Add one-half of the rates**  
can be conveyed in a four-seater **specified in 1 or 3(a) above**

**Note: When this charge is payable no further extra charges are applicable.**
  
- 5. CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIODS**

For the Christmas Period – 6 p.m. on 24 December until 7a.m. on 27 December **DoubleTariff 1**

For the New Year Period – 6 p.m. on 31 December until 7.am. on 2 January
  
- 6. MULTI-SEAT VEHICLES – CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PERIOD**

When used to carry more than 4 passengers or a greater amount of luggage than **Double Tariff 1**  
can be carried in a four seater for the days and times set out in Paragraph 5 above **plus 50%**
  
- 7. DAMAGE AND SOILAGE CHARGE**

The driver may recover costs under Section 65 of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 from the hirer who will be responsible for any damage to (or human discharge left in) the taxi, which has been caused by the action of the hirer or travelling companion(s), and the hirer will be liable to meet the full cost of restoration work required to make good the effects of the aforementioned damage and/or human discharge.
  
- 8. CARRIAGES FOR THE DISABLED** **Fares as specified**  
(No extra charges for wheelchairs) **in 1,2 and 3 above**



## County Lines Awareness – December 2021

Dear Taxi companies and drivers,

We are seeking to raise awareness around County Lines and protecting those who need help. Research has highlighted that gangs and criminal networks who recruit vulnerable children as couriers to move cash and drugs are utilising taxis as a mode of transport.

Help us to keep our children and young people safe by highlighting and reporting the possible signs of exploitation and play your part in helping to keep your community safe. Due to the impact of COVID and the lockdown restrictions, taxis have been used more as a method of transport for County Lines.

As you may already be aware, **#LookCloser** is a partnership campaign between **The Children's Society**, the **National County Lines Co-ordination Centre** and the **British Transport Police** aiming to raise awareness of child exploitation and abuse, with a particular focus on public spaces (including transport). The campaign also seeks to challenge stereotypes of victimhood, highlighting that child exploitation can happen anywhere, and any young person can be a victim.

Please find below links to the Children's Society website where you can find further information:  
<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/look-closer>

If you have previously come across young vulnerable people, please do inform us on how you took steps to safeguard them. We are always looking for positive role models and companies who support the community partnership with the Police in tackling serious and organised crime.

Also find below links to further Home office guidance and information about your responsibilities and how you can be supported to recognise the signs of exploitation and how to safeguard effectively.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/county-lines-posters-for-taxi-and-private-vehicle-hire-staff>

Should you have concerns for a child, it is important that you know what you can do with that information and how to report your concerns. If you believe a child is at immediate risk of harm always dial 999. You can also dial 101, however, there are also online facilities available to make this easier for you.

[Something you've seen or heard | Essex Police](#)

Please use this link to report any non-immediate concerns or information to Essex Police about Drug dealing and exploitation of children and vulnerable adults that you may come across. Thank you.