

**Taxi & Private Hire Forum Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday 17 April 2024**

**St Giles Room, City Offices – 14:00**

**Attended**

| <b>Drivers/Operators</b>  | <b>Winchester City Council</b>  |
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| Anjum Ghyas<br>Imran Khan<br>Yaqoob Ali Saddiq via Teams<br>Marouane El Mamouni | Carol Stefanczuk – Licensing Manager<br>Claire Humphreys – Licensing Officer<br>Kate Norris-Hill – Licensing Officer<br>Rebecca Hallett – Neighbourhood Services Officer. |

**Apologies**

Khurram Hussain  
Shamus Farooq

**Welcome**

Carol welcomed the members.

**VAWG (Violence Against Women and Girls) - Rebecca Hallett**

Rebecca introduced herself and explained her position within the Council. She explained what VAWG is and how important the role of a licensed driver is, and what part it plays within the project. Rebecca explained that a Community Intelligence form will be sent out. If a licensed driver sees or hear anything, they have a duty to submit the information to the Police.

Carol explained that all drivers will be expected to undertake refresher safeguarding training and this is not just about violence against women but all vulnerable people and informed the Forum that the Licensing team hope to produce a reference card that would be available for all drivers with contact details on which they will keep in the licensed vehicle for reference.

Rebecca noted that all drivers need to be informed where bleed kits are located if they have a passenger with a serious injury or witness a violent incident.



Rebecca explained to the Forum that VAWG information will be displayed in public toilets, toilets in venues, on coasters, in schools.

If Forum Members have any questions rising from this, they can be brought up at the next meeting.

### **Hackney Carriage and Private Hire fee increase/consultation**

Carol advised the members that this is still in the consultation period and to date she has received two comments.

### **Station Approach/ City Centre Regeneration**

Carol informed the group a public consultation was held for the Station Approach project, the Forum members were invited to nominate a representative to attend. No drivers/Operators replied. Carol stressed the importance of the Forum members and wider trade to be involved to provide their views and be a part of the project.

There is a future meeting arranged and Carol explained the process.

### **Railway Station Taxi/Bus Exit**

Carol explained to the Forum that Hampshire County Council have been given a list of all our Hackney Carriage Vehicle Registration numbers. Only buses and Hackney Carriages are permitted to use the exit via the traffic lights at the bottom of Station Hill. Private Hire Vehicles must not use this exit and will be issued with a fine should they do so.

Imran Khan asked if the yellow lines/taxi wording could be re-painted in Gladstone Street Carpark. He said they had almost disappeared, and people were using the spaces to park.

**Action- Carol to find out who is responsible for the yellow lines and taxi wording and enquire when this could be undertaken.**

### **Any other Business**

Imran Khan expressed his concern relating to the amount of Portsmouth licensed Uber vehicles in Winchester. Carol suggested it might be a good idea to bring in other Licensing Authorities for joint enforcement in Winchester. However, unless they are committing an offence, they have the right to park anywhere they wish.