

Taxi Licensing Newsletter Nov 2020

1. Fees for the year 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

It is the time of year again when the Council sets taxi licence fees for the next financial year. The regulatory Committee met on 10 November 2020 to discuss fees and agreed that there would be no increase in licensing fees for the next year. Fees have remained stable over the last 5 years with only some very small increases or reductions taking place. It is the case though that given the reduction in driver and vehicle numbers over the last 5 years the taxi licensing budget is in considerable deficit.

The fees for vehicles and operators must be advertised even though there is no change from last year, this is a statutory requirement. They should appear in the Surrey Advertiser this Friday 20 November 2020, any objections to the fees must be received by Friday 18 December 2020.

2. Insurance

A driver has contacted us about some changes to insurance policies which suggest that cover only applies when you take bookings through your base within the licensing authority you are licenced in, i.e. this will not cover any jobs booked through bases outside of the licensing authority you are licensed with. Its something new that is appearing in policies so check your policy and contact your insurance company if you are unsure of anything and seek clarification.

3. New Government Guidance - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance for taxis and PHVs Published Date: 19/11/2020

Please ensure you and your passengers follow the guidance

The government has [issued comprehensive guidance for taxi and PHV sector](#) on actions that drivers, operators and owners of taxis or private hire vehicles (PHVs) can take to protect against coronavirus. We will put this guidance on our website as well and should there be any further updates we will let you know.

The new guidance covers the following topics:

- National restrictions
- Drivers
- Carrying out a COVID-19 risk assessment - drivers
- Picking up passengers
- In the vehicle
- End of journey - leaving the vehicle
- Preparing your vehicle for the next passenger
- If you have coronavirus symptoms or have been told to self-isolate
- Financial help for drivers
- PHV operators and taxi intermediaries
- Carrying out a COVID-19 risk assessment - operators and intermediaries
- Providing health information to drivers and passengers
- Financial help for PHV operators and taxi intermediaries

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-taxis-and-phvs>

Please ensure you and your passengers follow the guidance