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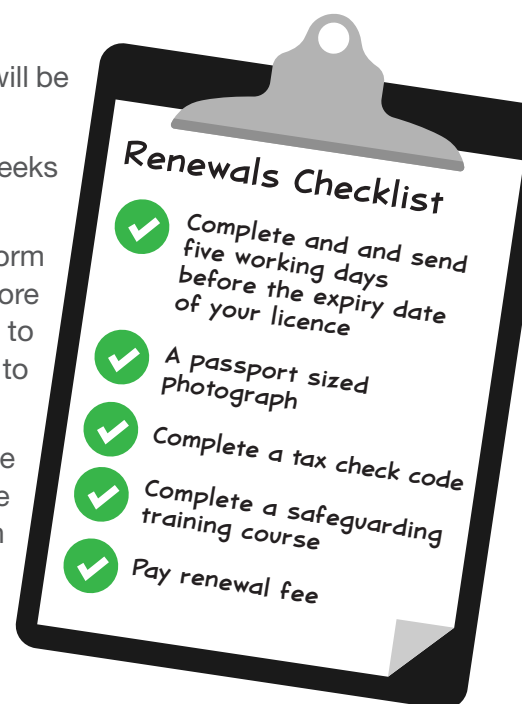
Renewals

As previously detailed in our last Newsletter, the majority of badge renewals will be completed during the next year.

If your badge is due to expire, a renewal form will be issued at least 4 weeks before the licence expiry date.

As this is a very busy time for the team, please ensure that your renewal form has been completed and sent to the Council at least five working days before the expiry date of your licence. A passport sized photograph will also need to be handed in at the Council Offices for your badge, (please add your name to the back of the photo).

You will also be required to complete a tax check code on the form and complete a safeguarding training course as part of your application. Therefore, please allow plenty of time for this process. This will then avoid undue pressure on yourself and the Taxi Licensing team if a late application is made. We cannot guarantee the application will be processed before your licence expires if it is received less than five working days before expiry.



Safeguarding training course



When completing a Hackney carriage/private hire driving licence renewal, application you are required to complete a safeguarding training course and forward the pass certificate with your application.

If you have any issues logging into, completing the course or if you do not receive a copy of your pass certificate, please contact Jamie Mckenzie on 07862 581393.

Alternatively, you can email jamie@unifiedtransportsystems.co.uk.

When you purchase the course, you will be sent information via a number of emails, please ensure you take the time to read them before starting the course. If you do not receive any emails, please check your junk email inbox.

The link to the training is:

<https://unifiedtransportsystems.co.uk/course/driver-training/broxbourne-advanced-professional-driver/>

The password for this booking page is: Yh2G29fS3. All passwords are case sensitive.

TAX



Tax check code

When completing a Hackney carriage/private hire driving licence renewal application, you will be required to provide a tax check code. It is not a code that you have already, it is a code that is generated through your Government Gateway account:

If you click on the link and scroll down, it links to the Government Gateway to create your tax code: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complete-a-tax-check-for-a-taxi-private-hire-or-scrap-metal-licence>. Alternatively, you can call 0300 200 3300.

The Taxi Licensing team cannot generate the code for you.

Private Hire Taxi Monthly

This is a publication that is run from the trader's perspective and has many interesting articles. We have added a link below for your interest: [Private Hire & Taxi Monthly | News \(PHTM\)](#).



Vehicle Compliances

Please ensure your vehicle is up to standard at all times. Our compliance garages have been asked to adhere strictly to the checks required.

We have had a small number of vehicles presented for compliance with issues related to tyres that would not pass an MOT, this is a serious matter and it is the driver's responsibility to check that the vehicle is roadworthy before each use.

As previously confirmed, compliance garages are required to check whether a licensed vehicle is displaying a Broxbourne comment sticker in their vehicle.

The only exception is private hire executive vehicles. If you do not have a comment sticker, please contact taxi@broxbourne.gov.uk to request one, do not wait until your vehicle has a compliance check. You will be notified when they are available to be collected from reception.

Similarly, if you do not have 'no smoking' stickers in your vehicle, do not wait until your vehicle has a compliance check to obtain them. We do have some available in the office, so please contact taxi@broxbourne.gov.uk to request them.

If you purchase a new vehicle, please ensure everything is in place (such as a meter if your

vehicle is a Hackney carriage) prior to presenting the vehicle for a compliance check. We appreciate that a new vehicle will be presented without a plate or comment sticker as they are issued when the vehicle is licensed. In this case, please advise the garage that the vehicle is new and the garage will mark the inspection sheet accordingly.

If a vehicle fails a compliance check, the garage is required to notify the Taxi Office. This is not optional, so please do not engage in any discussion around this with the garage. The vehicle licence will be suspended if the vehicle fails a compliance test, unless the work is carried out immediately and then a 'pass compliance' certificate issued.

Medical

We issue notifications that your medical is expiring at least 4 weeks in advance. Please arrange an appointment with your GP as soon as your reminder is received.

If your medical certificate expires, your licence is at risk of being suspended.

Please also ensure the GP fully completes the form. There have been several forms submitted that have failed to indicate if the patient is fit/unfit to work.



Deterioration of health

Licence holders must advise the Council of any deterioration in their health that may affect their driving capabilities. For the avoidance of doubt, the following medical conditions must be notified to the Council as soon as reasonably practicable, however this list is not exhaustive:

- any heart-related condition
- any eyesight related condition
- diabetes (Type 1 or Type 2)
- epilepsy
- sudden attacks of giddiness or fainting
- conditions causing excessive daytime sleepiness such as sleep apnoea
- alcohol or drug dependency
- mental or psychological disorders
- any other condition that may affect the ability to drive

Where there is any doubt as to the medical fitness of the applicant, or a currently licensed driver, the Council may require a further medical assessment to be undertaken by a GP appointed by the Council at the applicant's or licensed driver's own expense.

Rank Closure 24 November

The rank at Hoddesdon Town Centre Amwell Street will be suspended between 4.30-6.30pm Sunday 24 November 2024 whilst the Hoddesdon Loves Christmas event is being held. There will be road closures in and around the town centre.

You will be able to rank in Burford Street during this period. The vehicles will be required to enter Amwell Street, divert through Morrisons car park and then rank on Burford street on the left, with passengers entering vehicles from the pavement.

The area will be fully sign posted. We thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.



Active Herts

Broxbourne Council's Active Herts programme helps those who are at risk of cardiovascular diseases or who are experiencing mild to moderate mental health conditions.

Each participant who meets the programme's criteria will receive six weeks of free activity.

To be eligible for the Active Herts programme, you need to answer 'yes' to the following questions:

Do you currently do less than 30 minutes of physical activity (that raises your breathing) each week?

Are you over 16 years of age?

Do you live in the Borough of Broxbourne?

If you meet the above criteria, contact Andrew Rix, Broxbourne's Get Active Specialist, on 07506 503316 or email Andrew.rix@broxbourne.gov.uk.

Active Herts works with all three Primary Care Networks within the Borough so do mention Active Herts at your next appointment with your doctor or healthcare professional.

Further information can be found at

www.activeherts.org.uk



DRINK DRIVING

With the festive period fast approaching, please be aware of the facts:

- Drink driving is illegal and puts lives at risk.
- It is not possible to say how much alcohol you can drink and stay below the limit. The way alcohol affects you depends on:
 - » your weight, age, sex and metabolism (the rate your body uses energy)
 - » the type and amount of alcohol you're drinking
 - » what you've eaten recently
 - » your stress levels at the time

So if you're driving, it's better to have none for the road.



The Council would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your engagement this year and looks forward to 2025.

