

Emma King

From: Emma King
Sent: 18 April 2016 10:49
To: [REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com'
Subject: RE: new changes to taxi seating policy
Attachments: Swain [REDACTED].pdf

Dear Mr Swain

Thank you for your e-mail dated 17 April 2016 regarding the MPV seating capacity reviews

I will ensure that your comments are made available to Members of the Licensing Committee when they meet to consider this matter. At the moment a date has not been scheduled for this meeting, but it will **not be before** the consultation closing date of 2 May 2016.

With regard to your request for a copy of the Basildon Taxi Policy, I can confirm this was included in the original letter sent to you on 5 February 2016 and I have attached a copy of this to the e-mail for your convenience.

Kind regards

Emma King
 Licensing Officer
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 [REDACTED]

From: Graham Swain [mailto:[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].com]
Sent: 17 April 2016 22:23
To: Licensing Section
Subject: new changes to taxi seating policy

Dear Sir

I have tried to find the Basildon taxi policy that they have in place I can not can you please send me the link

I do believe that all galaxy's should have 6 carrying seats. If a car has been designed for 7 people and these days with passenger safety in the manufactures forefront of there focus. Then most of the cars that we want as taxi are safe. The average no of people that want a multi taxi differs from the day time trade to that of night time trade in the day a family will want to go down the beach or pier this is now more like to be mum and dad and 4 children or grandma and granddad with the children the 6 passenger carries are ideal for this as they are not to high as the 8 seaters to get in to and this means that we can pick up more fares.

I had a hire car recently and it was a ford galaxy please believe me the old lady's loved it, not to high for them to get in to and they could slide out on to there feet I was able to use this both in the day and in the night what a bonus that would be to me as an 6 seater and not a 5. The cost of one of these new is around £ 30.000 and a good 4 year old one is still around £17.500.

I would like to see a more liberal policy on the age of cars, after all out neighbours at Ipswich Suffolk take a different point of view, we can only register a car up to 5 years old and then use it till it is 10 years old plus 2 years if it is scene to be in good condition. what might be better is to look at the condition of the car taken in to account the interior on the car and the exterior if this meets a satisfactory condition then it is ok to be a taxi may be a 10 year old car would be in very good condition even a 15 year old car if kept in good condition.

There is the cost of cars to be taken in to account while not all can afford a new car there is still a very high price on cars at 5 years old a movement on this would help taxi owners and we might just see more of the higher class cars being turned in to taxis.

We live in a large area that is tendering and is made up of small towns Brightlingsea, Manningtree, Harwich, Walton and Frinton, Clacton on sea. while there is a living to be made from these areas the cost of cars can be excessive to the population that we cover.

I don't think that yellow handles in the back of cars will help if anything it will deter costumers from the taxi as most will associate it with a disable car while we need these disable taxis the majority of people will walk past you on the rank when you rank up, if you have one. I know I have been in that situation. This may not be pc correct however it is fact.

As Far the signs in the back of cars telling them where the escape exit is, people would not take to kindly to them either, costumers are a fickle bunch of people if something isn't just right they don't use you again and that's fact there is more choice out there and they will go else where.

I would also like to see a policy like Colchester for the mot's this means that an out side contractor takes on the role and does the mot it would make for a better system

on the subject of the two colour cars I don't think its a good thing as Basildon council is looking to be a large part of the council thinking you must realise that the taxi company in Basildon that has two colour cars is in fact a private company and not the brand of the council. this was awarded to them in 1963 in courts because the owner wanted to make sure that his cars stood out and to stop the theft of his cars.

I would be in favour of a sticker on the car maybe doors and rear perhaps an emblem doesn't need to be large just so that people can see that we are a taxi

I hope you find these thoughts helpful
yours

Graham swain 