

# UTTLESFORD LICENSED OPERATORS & DRIVERS ASSOCIATION



17 April, 2012

Dear Member,

It is always a pleasure to address you on behalf of the taxi trade and the meeting of the Licensing and Environmental Health Committee on 18 April is no exception.

#### Licensing Reserve/Annual Budget

With the end of the 2011/12 Financial Year, we look forward to receiving the results when they are available. It has been our established practice to review the year end surplus in July/August since the Licensing Task Group of Members, Officers and trade representatives first resolved to work together so successfully some years ago.

#### Quality Taxi Partnership

The new CCTV scheme funded by the generosity of Essex County Council has continued to work well. Murray Hardy reported on further success stories at the Liaison Meeting between Members, Officers and the trade on 27 March, with Elsenham Cabs providing the first case for collecting admissible recorded evidence. Our "reserve" list of Operators and Proprietors wishing to have CCTV fitted in their vehicles continues to grow, and we are maintaining dialogue with Members and Officers with the objective of securing the "matched funding" arrangement mentioned previously.

#### Annual Review of Table of Fares

The trade's working party has embarked on this year's review and all members of the hackney carriage trade have been consulted to collect their view on whether any increase is appropriate in 2012. The consultation period closes at the end of April and we will present the results of our deliberations at the first meeting of the Committee in the new fiscal year.

Finally, a plea from the heart (and the head!). We have over the years established an excellent way of working together – Members, Officers and trade representatives – stakeholders working in the best interests of all of us. The LTG was the first excellent model and we will be looking to realise the value of this "task group" approach on matters of concern such as UDC's Conditions of Licence going forward – which we requested at the Liaison Meeting in March.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Drinkwater  
Chair

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