



Further guidance for the drivers of private hire vehicles

PCO Notice 42/08 provided guidance to PHV drivers about accepting bookings and associated practices. This Notice provides some further information to help PHV drivers comply with the law.

Heathrow Airport and London City Airport

Item 2 of the Notice 42/08 stated if a driver is approached by a potential passenger, whether they are sat in your vehicle or otherwise, they **must** direct the passenger towards their licensed operator's office to make the booking there in person **or** they may hand out business cards bearing the telephone number of their operators to allow passengers to contact the operator to make a booking. **Drivers must never approach members of the public to offer services.**

Drivers must be aware that whilst handing out a business card is allowed on the streets of London, under Heathrow Airport Byelaw 4(12) 'Offer of Service', it is an offence on any part of Heathrow Airport. The byelaw states 'No person shall sell or distribute anything, offer anything for sale or hire or make any offer of services for reward'.

Any driver contravening this particular byelaw shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of up to £2,500.

It is also an offence at London City Airport, which is governed by separate byelaws. Byelaw 5(14) states that 'No person shall carry on a business, sell or distribute anything, offer anything for sale or hire or make any offer of service for reward'. Furthermore, Byelaw 5(15) states 'No person shall post, distribute or display signs, advertisements, circulars or other printed or written material'.

Any driver contravening a byelaw shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine, which in respect of contravention of Byelaw 5(14) shall be up to £400, and up to £1,000 in respect of Byelaw 5(15).

Taxi Ranks

Drivers of PHVs are reminded that they must not park or wait on taxi ranks.

The driver and owner of any vehicle except for a licensed hackney carriage found standing on a rank may be liable to a fine of up to £2,500.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Dowdye', is written over a circular stamp.

Mary Dowdye
Head of Standards & Regulations

25 March 2009

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