

Bus Lanes Adjudication Service Joint Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 June 2008 at the National Motorcycle Museum, Birmingham.

Present:

Councillor Trevor Bagshawe – Sheffield City Council
Councillor Tony Burns – Manchester City Council
Councillor Robert Cook – Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Councillor Phrynette Dickens – Hampshire County Council
Councillor Pat Drake – Brighton and Hove Council
Councillor Charles Gerrish – Bath and North East Somerset Council
Councillor Tony Page – Reading Borough Council
Councillor Jane Urquhart – Nottingham City Council

Also Present:

John Satchwell, Bournemouth Council, PATROL Advisory Board
Graham Addicott OBE – PATROL Advisory Board
Peter Bayless – PATROL Advisory Board
Caroline Shepherd, Chief Adjudicator
Louise Hutchinson, Head of Service, PATROL
Christine Crisp, for PATROL Secretary
Stacey Ryans – Birmingham City Council
Paul Nicholls – Brighton and Hove Council
David Howard – Essex County Council
Caroline Stylianou – Nottingham City Council
Helen Allen - Reading Borough Council

BLAS/ 08/10 Minutes

Decision

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2008.

BLAS/08/11 Annual report of the Bus Lane Adjudicators

The annual report of the adjudicators for the fifteen month period from January 2007 to March 2008 was submitted.

In introducing the report the Chief Adjudicator referred to the statistics showing a number of 'hot spots' in each of the areas subject to civil enforcement with the common theme of appeals being that the driver was not aware of the bus lane restriction. Members agreed that signage was of great importance and that it was up

to Councils to ensure all appropriate measures are undertaken to make drivers aware of bus lane restrictions.

Referring to page 3 of the report, the representative from Reading stated that Norfolk Road did not exist and it was agreed that this should be deleted from the document.

Members noted concerns relating to the colour of some Hackney Carriages and agreed that best practice in authorities should be shared in connection with this problem. Members also agreed that it was unreasonable for Councils not to reinstate discount periods in circumstances where drivers had made an informal challenge to the penalty charge that was later rejected.

Decision

1. To receive the annual report covering the period January 2007 to March 2008 and to forward it to the Secretary of State for Transport.
2. To agree that the report is published and circulated free of charge.

BLAS/08/12 General Progress and Service Standards

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on progress in relation to (a) the take up of civil enforcement of bus lane powers by Councils in England (outside London), and (b) service standard performance during 2007/2008.

Decision

1. To note the information in respect of the current and future take up of civil bus lane enforcement powers.
2. To note the performance attained against the agreed service standard indicators.

BLAS/08/13 Date of Next Meeting

Decision

To note that the next meeting of the Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee will be held on 27 January 2009 at Warwickshire County Cricket Ground, Edgbaston.

committee/bus lanes/nov08
