

Your Taxi Brief...

Introducing our regular news flyer tailored to taxi and private hire interests. You will see below some of the key legal developments from 1st November 2018 - 31st December 2018. We trust you find it informative!

4th November 2018

Judicial Review on Uber Licence Decision...

The High Court granted permission to the United Cabbies Group, on behalf of the United Taxi Action Group, for the bringing of a judicial review claim. The case centres on the decision by Transport for London to grant Uber London Limited a private hire operator licence. A full hearing is expected in 2019.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

7th November 2018

Tax Registration Checks on Licence Renewals...

HMRC has indicated an intention to introduce mandatory tax registration checks for licence renewals. This announcement was made within the Autumn Budget and following conclusion of the ' *Tackling the hidden economy: public sector licensing*' consultation. If adopted, Government will legislate for such provisions within the Finance Bill 2019.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

7th November 2018

Unlawful Sale of Car Journeys in Social Media Groups...

Dorset Police and Bournemouth Borough Council confirmed awareness of car journeys being sold through social media. It is alleged there are some 7,000 members of a *closed online group selling, or buying, such journeys* within the area. These activities, which reflect unlicensed taxi or private hire services, are illegal.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

11th November 2018

Trade Unionists Challenge Corporate Business...

Drivers for Addison Lee have launched a campaign seeking better pay and union recognition. Corporate clients, including Deutsche Bank, have been challenged to meet their commitment to upholding universal human rights and labour principles under the *UN Global Compact*. It is intended that such an approach will apply client pressure to Addison Lee and result in the desired objectives.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

14th November 2018

Addison Lee Loses Worker Rights Appeal...

The Employment Appeals Tribunal upheld an earlier decision finding the claimant Addison Lee drivers to be 'workers'. It rejected submissions the drivers are self-employed contractors thereby confirming an entitlement to national minimum wage and holiday pay (*Addison Lee Limited v Lange et al* *UKEAT/0037/18/BA*). Addison Lee is expected to appeal.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

29th November 2018

Cross-Party MPs Calls for Taxi & Private Hire Industry Reforms...

Wes Streeting MP sent a cross-party endorsed letter to the Department for Transport calling for reforms to the taxi and private hire industry. It follows the presentation of recommendations, in ' *Lessons from London: The future of the UK taxi trade*', by the All-Parliamentary Group on Taxis in 2017. A response is awaited from Government.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

7th December 2018

Wakefield Taxi Fees Unlawful...

The High Court found Wakefield City Council's licence fees to be unlawful following a challenge by Wakefield District Private Hire & Hackney Association. Judgement centred on the statutory provisions enabling the charging of fees and the resultant scope of licensing authorities powers (*R (Wakefield District Private Hire & Hackney Association) v Wakefield City Council*). A remedial claim for restitution is expected.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

17th December 2018

Government Response on Taylor Review...

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (DBEIS) presented to Parliament its response to the 'Good Work: The Taylor Review of Modern Working Practices' report. The ' *Good Work Plan*' outlines the Governments legislative proposals for reform. It includes requiring statements of rights, increases to maximum employers fines and, amongst others, holiday pay calculations.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

17th December 2018

Congestion Charge & Ultra Low Emission Zones in London...

Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, confirmed his decision to remove a Congestion Charge exemption for private hire vehicles and the introduction of the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) (*Greater London (Central Zone) Congestion Charging (Variation) Order 2018* and the *Greater London Low Emission Zone Charging (Variation) (No. 2) Order 2018*). These changes will take effect from 8th April 2019.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

19th December 2018

Uber Loses Worker Rights Appeal...

The Court of Appeal upheld an earlier Employment Appeal Tribunal decision finding the claimant Uber drivers to be 'workers'. It rejected submissions Uber is an agent for self-employed drivers. Instead it confirmed the drivers entitlement to national minimum wage and, amongst others, holiday pay (*Uber BV et al v Aslam et al [2018] EWCA Civ 2748*). Uber is expected, like Addison Lee, to appeal.

[READ ARTICLE](#)

Travis Morley Associates is an expert legal consultancy who supplies its specialist licensing law services across the United Kingdom. If you want more information on the above issues or have any other legal concerns, and want the best advice, contact us by T: 01159 724928 or E: enquiries@travismorley.co.uk.

