

TAXI
GLOBE



WARNERS
GROUP PUBLICATIONS P.L.C.
West Street, Bourne,
Lincolnshire PE10 9PH

EDITORIAL

Editor: S. Goodwin
Tel: 01707 885439
Fax: 01707 696034

E-mail: taxiglobeeditor@warnersgroup.co.uk

**DISPLAY &
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**

Sarah Hubbard
Advertising Manager
Tel: 01778 392048
Fax: 01778 392079

E-mail: sarahh@warnersgroup.co.uk

PUBLISHER

Jackie Green

DISTRIBUTION

DND Transport Services Ltd.
Tel 01707 272305

PRINTERS

Cumbrian Newsprint, Cumbria

PRODUCTION

Zone 1 Media LLP
Tel: 01462 491134
Fax: 01462 491137

E-mail: pauline@zone1media.co.uk

ACCOUNTS & CREDIT CONTROL

Caroline Harris
Tel: 01778 391023

SUBSCRIPTIONS

To ensure you get a copy of Taxi Globe for 12 months, please send a cheque or postal order, made payable to Warners Group Publication, for £20 inclusive of VAT and post and packing in the UK to:
Taxi Globe Subscriptions,
West Street, Bourne,
Lincolnshire PE10 9PH

Taxi Globe has been carefully prepared, but articles are published without the responsibility on the part of the publishers or authors for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of any view, information or advice included therein. The publishers accept no responsibility for the views or opinions expressed by contributors. Articles published in Taxi Globe do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publishers, nor can the publishers or authors accept any responsibility for any claims made by the advertisers.

MAYOR SETS OUT THE WAY TO GO

Boris Johnson has launched 'Way to Go', his vision of transport in the capital. In a candid and personal paper he recognises the effects that public transport, both good and bad, can have on people's quality of life, and outlines how he intends to improve the network for all Londoners.

In 'Way to Go' the Mayor argues that, despite real achievements such as the expansion of the bus fleet, the rise in cycling numbers, and the popular concessionary travel schemes, huge transport challenges still remain. Packed trains, clogged streets, and roads where cyclists take their lives into their own hands, all hamper Londoners quality of life, but will be improved through a series of measures that the Mayor sets out.

The good news for London's taxi trade is that the Mayor wants to see better traffic flow through rephrasing traffic lights. He is also going to open the bus lanes to motorbikes, and declaring 'war on roadworks' - clamping down on companies that leave holes in the streets. Many of the other points raised in the document are aimed at other modes of transport, although a DAC taxi is pictured on the front cover of the document. Mayor Boris Johnson said: "London has some fantastic transport infrastructure, but often you get the sense that solutions have been designed around the technology, rather than around the people it is supposed to serve. Our guiding principle of value for money will mean that Londoners money is invested wisely on projects that deliver real results."

This document is a precursor to the Mayor's Transport Strategy. Although it does not form part of the formal process of consulting on the Strategy, your views and comments on these issues and ideas are invited. Comments on this document will be considered by the Mayor prior to drafting the Transport Strategy.

The consultation will last for 10 weeks and close on Friday 16 January 2009. Comments should be sent either by post to:

Way to Go!
Post Point 22, FREEPOST LON15799,
City Hall,
The Queen's Walk,
London SE1 2BR
Or by email to:
waytogo@london.gov.uk



ROGUE DRIVERS FORCED OFF THE ROADS

Results of a joint police and Government operation show that compared with a similar operation in 2006, fewer motorists were found to be driving without a valid licence, insurance or MOT. Operation V79, carried out by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and its Scottish counterpart ACPOS in partnership with the Department for Transport, showed the level of unlicensed drivers stopped fell by half over two years – to 0.8% from 1.6% in 2006. Fifty-two police forces participated in Operation V79, in which 6,689 vehicles were stopped randomly over a 24-hour period on 18 March 2008.

The level of uninsured drivers stopped fell to 1.2% from 1.9% in 2006, while the level of vehicles stopped which required but were without a current MOT fell to 1.5% from 4.2% in 2006. Drivers stopped without valid vehicle tax fell to 1% from 2% in 2006. The level of drivers committing a serious offence, such as no insurance, or driving whilst disqualified, fell to 3.4% from 7.5% in 2006 while the number committing any of the offences

looked for – which included failing to notify change of vehicle ownership, illegal vehicle number plates – fell to 11.1% from 21% in 2006.

Jim Fitzpatrick, Road Safety Minister, said: "Unlicensed and uninsured drivers are a menace on our roads so I am delighted that this operation found that significantly fewer people were committing these serious offences. Uninsured drivers add £30 a year to every motorist's insurance premium and it is estimated that uninsured and untraced drivers kill 160 people and injure 23,000 every year. That is why we gave the police increased powers to detect, seize and destroy vehicles being driven without insurance. These powers are working – the police removed around 170,000 vehicles in 2007, that's more than 450 a day.

"But we know we need to do more which is why we are introducing a new offence of being the registered keeper of an uninsured vehicle which will leave uninsured drivers with nowhere to hide."

GLOBE

Website: www.taxiglobe.info – To advertise in the most independent newspaper – Telephone – 01778 392048 Editorial – 01707 885439