



WARNERS
GROUP PUBLICATIONS PLC
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

Jane Brewster
Advertising Sales Executive
Tel: 01778 391158
Fax: 01778 392079
jbrewster@warnersgroup.co.uk

PUBLISHER

Simon Moody

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.

CLEANER TAXIS TO IMPROVE CAPITAL'S AIR QUALITY

In the last issue of Taxi Globe there was an open letter from Mayor Boris Johnson, asking for support for his plans to clean up the air in London. On 5th October 2009, the Mayor published a comprehensive set of measures to clean up the capital's air. There is now a consultation period where the Mayor is seeking views of the draft air quality strategy. He has also called on Government to fully back the plan with adequate policy and financial support. The document, 'Clearing the Air', the Mayor's draft air quality strategy, outlines the key sources of London's harmful airborne pollutants and proposes an action plan to reduce emissions. The pollutants of particular concern are nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particulate matter (PM₁₀). Road transport, including taxis, is the main source of emissions - with emissions from gas used in homes and businesses also a large contributor of NO₂.

AGE LIMIT FOR TAXIS PROPOSED

The Mayor is already implementing a range of measures in London to improve air quality such as converting buses to hybrid. The Government faces large fines of potentially millions of pounds from the European Union if legal air quality targets are not met across the UK. Taxis are responsible for around 35 per cent of road transport PM₁₀ exhaust emissions in central London, where PM₁₀ problem areas are; the Mayor proposes to introduce an age limit for taxis and minicabs starting with a 15 year age limit in 2012, tightened to a 10 year age limit in 2015. He will also require that all taxis and minicabs being licensed for the first time from 2012 are euro 4 compliant. This will remove the oldest, most polluting taxis from the streets.

This will be taken forward in full consultation with the taxi and PHV industry, including how best to finance its implementation.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

The Public Carriage Office is also exploring how the trade can take advantage of new technology for cab engines, such as hybrid technology. Funding of £1m to trial low carbon technology in London's taxi fleet is one measure already introduced. Other measures will include supporting, through TfL's Climate Change Fund, the introduction of a fuel efficient driving campaign aimed at both taxi and private hire drivers.

REPLY BY 30TH NOVEMBER 2009

'Clearing the Air' has been issued for consultation with the London Assembly and the Greater London Authority's functional bodies including Transport for London, London Fire Brigade and the Metropolitan Police Authority and other interested parties - the consultation period will last until 30 November. In early 2010 a second version of the strategy will be published for formal public consultation.

The Mayor's air quality strategy can be viewed online at: www.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/air_quality/index.jsp where you can also find out how to have your say. To request a paper version of the questionnaire or the draft strategy document (including in a large print format), please email MAQS@london.gov.uk telephone the Public Liaison Unit on 020 7983 4100 or write to Mayor's Air Strategy Consultation, Post Point 19A, FREEPOST LON15799 City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2BR.

LONDON TAXI FUEL CELL SYSTEM AT INTELLIGENT ENERGY

Energy minister, David Kidney MP, the Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) visited Intelligent Energy, the clean power systems company, on 9th October 2009. There he met with Intelligent Energy Chief Executive, Dr Henri Winand, to discuss the importance of greater investment in UK-based clean technology innovation. During the visit to Intelligent Energy's facilities in Loughborough, the minister was given a hands-on demonstration of the hydrogen fuel cell which will be installed into a fleet of zero emission London taxis by 2012; a programme part funded by the UK Government's Technology Strategy Board. The minister operated the fuel cell with a simple press of a button, instantly generating around 30 kilowatts of energy - enough to provide propulsion to the iconic London taxi. "I was very pleased to visit Intelligent Energy, where I had the chance to see firsthand the exciting developments they've made in their drive towards the commercialisation of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies and in particular the work they're doing to introduce low carbon taxis in London by 2012," said the Energy minister. "It's essential that we bring forward these innovative low carbon technologies to tackle the challenge of climate change. DECC's new competition launched in September for up to £7.2 million of funding for hydrogen and fuel



David Kidney MP during his visit

cell technology demonstration will fill a current gap in the innovation chain relating to scale-up and deployment of this low carbon technology. The competition is a clear measure of Government support for this innovation."

As yet, no road tests of the taxi have taken place as the technology is not yet in a taxi. A spokesperson for LTI Vehicles said: "LTI are working closely with Intelligent Energy to develop their product for the taxi application. The target date for this taxi is in time for the 2012 Olympics."

