

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**COUNCILLOR FARYAD HUSSAIN****PORTFOLIO CO-ORDINATING
DIRECTOR: SAYYED OSMAN****DATE: 1 AUGUST 2012****PUBLIC CONSULTATION REGARDING THE AGE OF TAXIS**

A public consultation following Government guidance on the age limits for hackney carriage and private hire vehicles. At the moment vehicles cannot be licensed once they reach the age of 10 years for private hire vehicles and 15 years for purpose built hackney carriages.

SHOP HAS LICENCE TO SELL ALCOHOL SUSPENDED

Council's Licensing committee has suspended the licence to sell alcohol from Lynwood Wines, 285/287 Blackburn Road, Darwen. On 2 consecutive occasions within a 3 month period the shop sold alcohol to underage volunteers in joint Police and Trading Standards test purchasing operations. Licensing committee suspended the licence for 4 weeks. There was an appeal by Lynwood Wines to Magistrates. The Court upheld the Council's original decision.

WASTE

The recycling rate for 2011/12 was 45.7%, when compared with 44.9% for 2010/11. Comparative kgs of waste per head of population figure has reduced from 137kg per household in 2010/11 to 128.5kg per household in 2011/12.

The tonnage put out for collection by households is reducing each year. This is a positive trend to see an increase in recycling rates, the Council is intending re-leaflet the borough early autumn, with a reminder to citizens of what can and cannot be recycled.

PARKLANDS

6 parks and open spaces have been awarded Green Flag status, Sunnyhurst Woods, Roe Lee Park, Queens Park, Witton Park, Corporation Park and Bold Venture Park, which is a testimony to the hard work and efforts of the council, but also it's partners, with specific thanks being given to the respective Friends and Supporters Groups who share the success.

CORPORATION PARK HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND APPLICATION

The Corporation Park Supporters Group (CPSG) has lodged a Stage 1 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), to enable the conservatory at the park to be renovated. The project costs are estimated at £1.8m, with the CPSG and Council aiming to secure the necessary 10% funding, to make the project viable. Decision on Stage 1 of the bid will be known by Sept 2012.