

Thanks and goodbye **Ed...** ...Hello and welcome **John**

PCO Director Ed Thompson steps down and John Mason is appointed.

Ed Thompson, Transport for London's (TfL) Taxi and Private Hire Director at the Public Carriage Office has stepped down after seven years at the PCO.

Jeroen Weimar, Chief Operating Officer of Surface Transport at TfL said that Ed will be exploring new opportunities within TfL after a challenging seven years leading the PCO.

Ed has overseen the introduction of Private Hire Licensing and worked very closely with the Private Hire Industry. From the LPHCA's view Ed has done a fantastic job, was always available and willing to listen and took on board sensible proposals, so he will be greatly missed.

The Private Hire & Taxi Director's role at the PCO is a challenging role, dealing on one hand with the biggest previously unlicensed Private Hire Industry in the world and on the other, dealing with one of the oldest and most regulated Taxi Industries. From our perspective Ed will be fondly remembered and his contribution not forgotten. We are very pleased to learn that he will still be involved at TfL.

Jeroen Weimar said: "Ed has led the PCO through challenging times and has been instrumental in some really positive changes, which have benefited both the trade and passengers. But Ed has decided he wants to take up a fresh challenge within TfL and I wish him well in his future endeavours."



Ed Thompson (Far right) sharing a special moment with LPHCA Members at Last Year's AGM.

Ed Thompson said: "It has been a great privilege to serve in this post for the past seven years. I would like to pay tribute to all of the staff at the PCO and to those who provide Taxi and Private Hire services who do such a great job for London. I'm looking forward to my future challenges but will greatly miss the PCO and the Taxi and Private Hire trades."

So sadly its goodbye to Ed

Following Ed Thompson's announcement that he is moving within Transport for London (TfL), John Mason has been appointed as the new Director of Taxi and Private Hire at the Public Carriage Office.

John Mason

John Mason was previously the Deputy Director for Congestion Charging and Traffic Enforcement, takes up his new challenging role on 28 September 2009 and will be meeting the LPHCA, soon after he starts. We are delighted to announce that John will be both attending and speaking at our AGM & Road Show on Thursday 8th October at the Heathrow Marriott Hotel.



John will be outlining his early thoughts on the way forward and will be warmly welcomed by Members, Delegates and our Special Guests.

Jeroen Weimar, Chief Operating Officer of Surface Transport at TfL said: "John will take forward the already excellent work of the PCO, with a focus on delivering the Mayor's key objective of cracking down on illegal taxi touts."

John Mason said: "I am delighted to have this great opportunity to join the Public Carriage Office. This is a unique opportunity to work with the Taxi and Private Hire trades, whose members provide such a vital service to the Capital.

"London's Taxi and Private Hire services are already the best in the World and I'm looking forward to working with the trade to provide an even better service for Londoners. I'm sure members of the trade won't hesitate to give me their views." So John is right on the mark there!

We look forward to meeting and welcoming John and having a long and close working relationship with him, in and beyond the exciting times that will lead up to the 2012 Olympic Games.

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