



# The Chronicle



Issue 16

February 2011

SOUTHERN DRIVERS  
COMPANY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER.

## TAXI'S

We have recently become aware that Southern have unilaterally and with no prior discussions altered their method of procuring taxi's for our use when on duty. This decision has been made at the GoVia group level and includes both Southeastern and London Midland. Some of you have already experienced problems and we need to know of anybody who is dissatisfied with the service they get whether this be delays, poor quality cabs or poor quality driving. We had a number of problems many years ago with the quality etc of the taxi's we were asked to travel in and through discussions ensured our local representatives had some input in to the companies used. We are now in a situation where a third party decides who the company will be.

We have listed this for discussion at our level and can assure you that your safety is paramount and the way this is being dealt with is unacceptable to us.

## NEW OHS PROVIDER

We met with the new provider last week to view the new facilities and to discuss how they see the future of occupational health on Southern.

We were encouraged by the conversations we had and clearly the whole ethos in our view has changed for the better. All of their staff are clearly more hands on, and all staff should leave the building with a clear understanding of what has taken place and what is to happen going forward. They are also intending to be more proactive in providing staff with help and guidance on their health and well being at work and would encourage staff to come forward if they have any problems they believe could be helped by OHS.

They also wish to make depot visits to enable staff to have their cholesterol and blood pressure checked and have discussions with staff about their health etc at work. We have indicated we fully support such visits and would encourage all members to take up this opportunity.

## Sunday Rostering.

Southern have come forward with proposals to alter the way our rosters are compiled at Southern Depots.

Their proposal is that we should adopt the FCC method of rostering and change shifts on our double rest days and not solely over the weekend as now.

We have told Southern that we view this as a major change to our terms and conditions which will require a referendum of our membership. We have also told them that we and you would view this as a major productivity issue that would require some recompense in other areas of our terms and conditions in return for our acceptance. Southern's view was not quite the same as ours. They have said they are prepared to place a percentage figure on the number of Sundays we could be rostered and required to work of not much more than the 33% we have now.

Discussions are continuing and we will keep you advised.

Roy Luxford.  
Kevin Eade.  
John Doyle.

roy@royluxford.org.uk  
kevin@eadek.fsnet.co.uk  
John.d2472@blueyonder.co.uk

07778870937  
07818661759  
07957582323