

Press release

Immediate release

21st March 2013

BPA terminates membership of VP Parking Solutions

The British Parking Association (BPA) has announced it has terminated the membership of one of its members - VP Parking Solutions. At a BPA Council meeting on Wednesday 13th March, BPA Council members voted to terminate VP Parking Solution's membership to the BPA and its Approved Operator Scheme (AOS) – currently the only Accredited Trade Association (ATA) for the private parking sector.

The BPA is committed to encouraging and developing the highest standards of professional conduct and ethics within its membership. The BPA Code of Professional Conduct sets out the standards of conduct expected by those working in the profession and all BPA members commit to the code when they join the association. Unfortunately VP Parking Solutions were unable to comply with these standards.

This means that VP Parking Solutions will no longer be able to make requests to the DVLA for information held by them on the vehicle and keeper registers. This is usually the only way in which parking companies can identify the owners of vehicles who do not pay parking charges.

The termination is effective immediately and the company must remove all references to the BPA and AOS in all of their business transactions, including signage in car parks which they manage. It also means that anyone who receives a parking charge notice from VP Parking Solutions in future will not be able to have access to the Independent Appeals Service (PoPLA) which is available to any motorist who receives a parking charge notice from a BPA member.

Ends

Notes to Editor

The British Parking Association (BPA), founded in 1970, is the largest independent professional association in Europe, representing 710 member organisations in the parking and traffic management profession. Members range from Government departments and local authorities to technology manufacturers and car park operators in transport, higher education and healthcare sectors.

The BPA is dedicated to promoting and representing knowledge and standards in parking management, enforcement maintenance and design, both on-street and off-street, and to bringing together the interests of Government, local authorities and commercial organisations, providing a forum for the exchange of information and ideas concerning parking.

The purpose of the Approved Operator Scheme is to drive up standards in the management of parking on private land – an area where the Government has failed both motorists and landowners – and drive out any rogue traders. The Code of Practice requires strict compliance on issues like behaviour of enforcement staff, and clarity of car park signage as well as guidance on appropriate levels of charges

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