

RECONVENED COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 9(d)
26 JULY 2017	PUBLIC REPORT

EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

(d) LICENSING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – PROPOSED TAXI POLICY - RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION AND ADOPTION OF FINAL POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION DATE

Licensing Committee, at its meeting of 6 July 2017, received a report to advise members of the consultation process carried out on the proposed Taxi Policy, to request members to properly consider the responses received and determine the direction of the policy in consideration of those responses, agree the adoption of the final policy, subject to amendments, and set the implementation date for the policy and conditions to take effect.

At the meeting the Licensing Committee agreed with officer direction on areas where no amendment was required in relation to the responses received following the consultation of the draft taxi policy.

The Committee further considered the consultation responses and other matters within the report and:

- (i) Following a vote 5 for and 3 against it was agreed to retain the status quo in regards to the 3 year standard DBS arrangements;
- (ii) following a vote, unanimously Agreed to the addition of the paragraph within sections 6 – Enforcement of the draft taxi policy ‘Any person who witnesses speeding, dangerous, reckless, or careless driving by a licensed driver or otherwise, should report each incident to the police (as they are the enforcing body for driving offences) with sufficient information to allow the police to take appropriate action’;
- (iii) Agreed to drop proposal option d) not to extend the life of a vehicle in the trade based on emission standards and to retain status quo;
- (iv) Agreed to remain with the status quo in relation to the licensing age of HCVs as follows:
A maximum age at time of first being licence - 3 year old; with a maximum age limit for a Hackney carriage vehicle for 15 years;
- (v) Agreed to retain the Group 2 medical check outlined within the draft policy on taxi license application for drivers and then every three years, then annually thereafter when the driver reaches 65;
- (vi) Agreed to amend the draft policy in relation to the Part 2 notice wording ‘Should you wish to comment positively or negatively on any aspect of your journey today, please call....’;
- (vii) Noted the awaited response from the secretary of state regarding the proposed byelaws and the pending consultation;
- (vii) Noted the use of the designated car parks (wellington street, Wirrina and Pleasure Fair Meadow) for the purposes of PHV waiting subject to two director approvals and an amendment to the (Traffic Regulation Order).

These amendments have been made within the attached appendices.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that Council:

- 1) Adopt the draft Taxi Policy, subject to the amendments proposed by the Licensing Committee;

- 2) Agree the Taxi Policy implementation date to be of immediate effect, subject to:
 - (i) An allowance of 3 months for the amendment of the Off Street Traffic Regulation Order; and
 - (ii) Relevant procurement process for outsourcing driving tests.
- 3) Approve the amendment of the Licensing Committee terms of reference to state that:
 - (i) On recommendation by the Licensing Committee all statutory policies within the Licensing Committee's remit must go to Full Council for formal adoption. This includes any modifications, amendments to those policies; and
 - (ii) On recommendation by the Licensing Committee all non statutory policies must be submitted either to Full Council or Cabinet for formal adoption. Thereafter, any minor amendments or modifications, can be adopted by the Licensing Committee.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Draft Licensing Policy

The original Licensing Committee report follows these appendices.