

**For publication**

**Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy (A000)**

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Meeting: Appeals and Regulatory Committee

Date: 28 November 2018

Cabinet portfolio: Health and Wellbeing

Report by: Licensing Manager

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**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To propose amendments to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 The policy amendments are approved.

**3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 The amendments will enhance public safety.

**4.0 BACKGROUND**

4.1 On 10 October 2018 the committee approved a series of amendments to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy for consultation, that period of consultation ended on Friday 16 November 2018.

4.2 The amendments are:

- Adoption of the NAFN database of refusals and revocations;
- When considering previous convictions in section 4, appendix 1, the period of consideration will commence from the completion of any sentence imposed, not the date of conviction;
- Knowledge tests to be administered by a computerised system when appropriate;
- Applicants for a taxi drivers licence to pay an initial fee to cover the process up to the point their application is determined, the fee to be non-returnable;
- Drivers of private hire vehicles to notify the council of which operator they are working for before they drive the vehicle;
- The code of conduct is amended with regard to the wording of the dress code; and
- The requirement for a financial reference is replaced by a self-declaration.

4.3 The consultation involved discussion at the Taxi Consultative Committee meeting, a letter to all licence holders and operators and information provided to customers at the licensing service counter.

4.4 The only response received was support for the amendments from the taxi consultative committee.

## **5.0 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

5.1 A full equalities impact assessment has not been completed but the amendments will have a positive impact on equalities.

## **6.0 RISK MANAGEMENT**

6.1 A full risk management assessment has not been completed but these measures will all enhance public safety.

## **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 The policy amendments are approved for implementation from Monday 2 December 2018.

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