

For publication

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy -

Meeting: Appeals and Regulatory Committee

Date: 27 JULY 2022

Cabinet portfolio: Health and Wellbeing

Report by: Licensing Manager

Policy Amendments

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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider amending the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy in relation to good conduct certificates.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That good conduct certificates are no longer required from applicants for a taxi or private hire drivers licence if the person concerned can show they have been resident in the UK continuously for the last ten years.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The amendment is proportionate and will not adversely affect public safety.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Under current policy, applicants from other countries are required to provide a Certificate of Good Conduct from the embassy of every country where they have been domiciled before entering the UK.
- 4.2 Applicants from countries suffering war or other turmoil have experienced difficulties in obtaining this documentation as there are either no records to be accessed or the person fears for their safety if their former state became aware of their whereabouts.
- 4.3 In these circumstances the applicant is referred to the committee, irrespective of how long they have been resident in the UK.
- 4.4 While the council may consider all previous convictions, whether spent or not, our scheme of assessing offending history focuses on the last ten years with points allocated accordingly in the tables outlined in tables [1 to 5 of paragraph 4.3 in the policy](#).
- 4.5 Following that principle, it is proposed to allow applications to proceed if the individual can show they have been resident in the UK for the last ten years continuously.
- 4.6 Irrespective of this provision, if officers have any doubts or concerns regarding the application, they can refer the matter to committee.

5.0 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 A preliminary equalities impact assessment has been completed and is attached at appendix A. The conclusion was that a full assessment was not required as the proposed change to the policy will bring about positive outcomes for those people with different ethnic backgrounds.

6.0 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 A full risk management assessment has not been completed but this measure will not endanger public safety and reflects current practice.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That good conduct certificates are no longer required from applicants for a taxi or private hire drivers licence if the person

concerned can show they have been resident in the UK continuously for the last ten years.

For more information on this report please contact Emma Marriott,
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