

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 &  
TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847**

**HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE DRIVERS LICENCE –  
KNOWLEDGE TEST RESULTS**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider the results of the hackney carriage vehicle drivers licence knowledge test since its introduction.
- 1.2 To consider the introduction of a knowledge test for private hire vehicle drivers.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The requirement for applicants to sit a knowledge test before being granted a licence was introduced in the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy in 2009.
- 2.2 The first knowledge test was sat in July 2009. Since that date, a total of 31 applicants have sat the test and 5 applicants are currently taking the test. The following table shows the pass rates.

	Number of Attempts					Failed
	1	2	3	4	5+	
<b>Part A – Routes</b>	28.8%	9.7%	12.9%	12.9%	19.4%	19.4%
<b>Part B – Legislation</b>	22.5%	9.7%	29%	12.9%	12.9%	12.9%
<b>Part C – Road Craft</b>	74.2%	22.5%	-	-	-	3%

- 2.3 Only 3 applicants have passed all sections of the knowledge test at the first attempt. The figures would appear to demonstrate that the knowledge test strikes a reasonable balance and neither too hard or easy.
- 2.4 Following the introduction of the knowledge test for hackney carriage vehicle drivers it is proposed to introduce a knowledge test for private

hire drivers. This test will include a "Private Hire Legislation" section and a "Road Craft" section.

2.5 If agreed, it is proposed to start developing the test and then to consult interested parties. Following this consultation a further report will be presented to the Licensing Committee for consideration.

### **3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 Option 1 – To introduce the knowledge test for private hire drivers as per the report and start the consultation process.

3.2 Option 2 – Not to introduce a knowledge test for private hire drivers.

### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 Option 1 – The introduction of a local knowledge test looking at road craft and legislation would further protect the travelling public. The test can be developed in consultation with the taxi trade.

4.2 Option 2 – The current application process for private hire vehicle drivers will be maintained.

### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 None.

### **6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

6.1 None.

### **7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 To be carried out following this report.

### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That the results of the knowledge test for hackney carriage vehicle drivers be acknowledged.

8.2 That a knowledge test for private hire vehicle drivers be developed and the consultation is carried out.

## **SERVICE DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT**

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**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: - Knowledge Test Results**