

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

DRAFT HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 At its meeting on 22 September 2022, the Committee agreed the revised draft of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy subject to a number of amendments been incorporated.
- 1.2 However, on the rising of the Licensing (Miscellaneous) Sub-Committee meeting held on 13 October 2022, members informally discussed their reservations about the prescriptive nature of the policy, particularly CCTV and the threshold for Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles being required by a Private Hire Operator.
- 1.3 Members are therefore asked to discuss and agree the further amendments to the Council Policy before consultation commences.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 North Lincolnshire Council has a duty to protect the public and is authorised to carry out the statutory function of issuing Licences in relation to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers, Vehicles and Operators.
- 2.2 These Licences are issued in accordance with the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.
- 2.3 There is no legal requirement for the policy; however, it was considered good practice that such a policy to be implemented. A policy has been in place since January 2011 and was last reviewed in September 2017.
- 2.4 Since the current policy was approved by this committee, there have been significant changes to the policy overall therefore track changes are not available on the policy document.
- 2.5 The policy was considered by the Licensing Committee on 22 September 2022 where members agreed the policy in principle, subject to a number of changes being made (Minute 1888 refers).

- 2.6 On the rising of the Licensing (Miscellaneous) Sub-Committee meeting held on 13 October 2022, members discussed informally whether the requirement for CCTV to be installed in all Hackney Carriage Vehicles was proportionate and whether a threshold should be introduced for Private Hire Operators to have disabled access vehicles to be available as part of their fleet.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Option 1 – To revise the policy prior to consultation with interested parties.
- 3.2 Option 2 – To maintain the policy in its current format.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 1 – The policy has been changed to reflect significant changes that have deemed necessary. The changes to the policy will be subject to consultation.
- 4.2 Option 2 – A rejection of this policy would mean in the current policy remaining in force, which has some gaps.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

- 5.1 None.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

- 6.1 None.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

- 7.1 An integrated impact assessment will be carried out following the consultation process.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

- 8.1 Consultation will commence following approval of this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the committee consider the installation of CCTV in its Hackney Carriage Vehicles.
- 9.2 That the committee consider the threshold for Private Hire Operators to have to have disabled access vehicles to be available as part of their fleet.
- 9.3 That the draft policy be agreed, and that consultation commences.

DIRECTOR: ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

Church Square House
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6XQ

Author: Richard Copley
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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – None