

# AGENDA ITEM 11

## RURAL ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

5th MARCH 2014

### REPORT OF HEAD OF REGULATORY SERVICES

#### HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY

##### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To invite members to consider and approve a new Hackney Carriage and Private Hire policy.

##### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **To recommend that the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy at Appendix A be adopted.**
- 2.2 **To consider the comments put forward by members of the trade and the public as a result of the consultation process.**

##### 3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 A Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy will enable this Council to have a clear policy on all matters relating to vehicles and drivers.
- 3.2 This Policy has been drawn up in line with the Department of Transport's Best Practice Guidance.
- 3.3 The main changes to the current way of operating are highlighted in the policy in italics.

##### 4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 If this Policy is approved all taxi matters will be dealt with in the future with reference to this document.

##### 5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial or other resource implications.

##### 6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

- 6.1 This policy has been written in accordance with the Council's responsibilities under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and the Town and Police Clauses Act 1847.

##### 7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

- 7.1 This policy has been written with Community Safety in mind and it endeavours, as far as is possible, to ensure that the travelling public are safe both in respect of the suitability of the driver and the mechanical soundness of the vehicle.

##### 8.0 EQUALITIES

- 8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment Report has been undertaken and the issues it presents have been incorporated into the policy where applicable.

## 9.0 RISKS

9.1 There are no risks relating to this report.

## 10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 The report recommends that a reduction of 25% off the fee should be given where the vehicle is fuelled by LPG, Petrol/+ electric or compressed natural gas. This is to actively encourage the use of these vehicles for Hackney Carriage or Private Hire.

## 11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 Full consultation has been carried out. The Consultation period ended on 14th February 2014. The responses are detailed in the table at Appendix 3. Mr Peter Faulkner, who has submitted the consultation response by Melton Mowbray Taxi Drivers Association has stated that he represents many members of the trade but the Council have not yet had sight of any minutes or any confirmation by other drivers that he represents them. Consideration has been given to all the comments received and the changes in the table are proposed in the light of them.

## 12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All wards.

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Contact Officer: Jim Worley/Elaine Holdsworth

Date: 10 February 2014

Appendices : Appendix A - Proposed Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Policy.  
Appendix B – Table of consultation responses

Reference : Q : Committees