

## RURAL, ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016

### REPORT OF HEAD OF REGULATORY SERVICES

#### HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING 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 agree the draft policy in principle, prior to the formal consultation process, for the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy at Appendix A.

##### **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.
- 3.4 Following consideration of these changes by Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015, additional comments are highlighted in the policy in bold 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 direct financial implications arising from this report. It is feasible that amendments to the policy could impact upon the cost of the service and/or fees charged, however this report seeks only to agree the content of the policy for consultation purposes.

##### **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 carried out. The policy makes significant provision for issues arising from Equalities and the changes proposed in this report raise no further such issues.

## **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 The proposed revisions to the policy were considered by Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

11.2 Full consultation will be carried out on the content of the policy and responses will be detailed in the meeting to be held to determine whether the revisions should be adopted.

## **12.0 WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All wards.

---

Contact Officer: Head of Regulatory Services

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Appendices : Appendix A - Proposed Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Policy.

Reference :