

LICENSING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE

14 January 2016

REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE CONDITIONS

REPORT OF HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & LICENSING

Contact Officer: Anya Pyke Tel No: 01962 848443

RECENT REFERENCES:

[LR 455](#) – Review of Private Hire Operator Licence Conditions – 8 October 2015

[LR 359](#) – Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Conditions of Licence – 28 March 2011

[LR 348](#) – Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Conditions of Licence – 1 December 2010

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is to consider comments made during the consultation period for proposed changes to the Private Hire Operator's Licence Conditions in relation to sub-contracting bookings.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 That the Committee consider whether the comments received should be incorporated into the Private Hire Operator's Licence Conditions.
- 2 That, subject to any amendments, the draft version of the Private Hire Operator's Licence Conditions attached at Appendix 1 is approved for adoption.

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DETAIL:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 At the Licensing and Regulation Committee on 8 October 2015, Members approved a draft version of the Private Hire Operator's Licence Conditions following the Deregulation Act 2015, which amends the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, for consultation.
- 1.2 The Licensing Team wrote to all hackney carriage and private hire drivers and private hire operators on 22 October 2015, to consult them on the proposed changes to the Conditions. The consultation period was for one month and ended on 22 November 2015.
- 1.3 During the consultation period, the Licensing Team received one comment from Mr Mahmood Ahmed, Hackney Carriage Forum Representative, on behalf of the Hackney Carriage Drivers licensed by the City Council, which can be found at Appendix 2.
- 1.4 Members are asked to consider the comments made and whether any additional changes should be made to the Private Hire Operator's Licence Conditions.

2 Comments

- 2.1 Winchester's Hackney Carriage Drivers have commented that in addition to the draft amendment made (Appendix 1) that point 10 should be amended to include: *The Operator shall provide a prompt, efficient and reliable service to the public at reasonable times **and at reasonable cost**, in particular shall ensure that the hirer is aware of the fare for the journey, or whether it is to be metered and in wither case to include any call out or return fee.*
- 2.2 The Hackney Carriage Drivers also requested that an additional condition is included to require an operator to supply details of an alternative operator licensed by Winchester City Council, and that point 21 of the draft document remains.

3 Decision required

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider, in light of the comments received during consultation, whether to amend the Private Hire Operator's Licence Conditions to include the changes in report LR400 which was considered at the Licensing and Regulation Committee on 8 October 2015, and to include the comments made on behalf of the Hackney Carriage Drivers of Winchester.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

4 COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND PORTFOLIO PLANS (RELEVANCE TO):

- 4.1 This report relates to ensuring the safety of the public using taxis and private hire vehicles licensed by the Council.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Income and expenditure is forecast to remain at existing levels and within the current approved budgets.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 6.1 None.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None.

APPENDICES:

Appendix – 1 Draft Private Hire Operator's Licence Conditions – review October 2015

Appendix 2 – Response from Mr Mahmood Ahmed, Hackney Carriage Forum Representative, on behalf of the Hackney Carriage Drivers of Winchester.