

AGENDA NO

OTHER LICENSING COMMITTEE

27 August 2019

**REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATION, DEMOCRATIC AND
ELECTORAL SERVICES**

PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING POLICY AMENDMENTS - CONSULTATION

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update Members on a recent Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Policy consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

Members' comments are received.

Detail

1. At the Taxi Trade meeting in June 2019 private hire operators in attendance requested formal consideration of proposed amendments to the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Policy. A copy of the formal request is attached as Appendix 1.
2. In addition a request was received from Tahir Ali the chairman of the Stockton Hackney Carriage Driver Association (SHCDA) for an amendment to policy regarding factory fitted tinted windows in vehicles. A copy of this email is attached as Appendix 2.
3. The current policy wording and proposed amendments are attached at Appendix 3.
4. Links to the electronic survey were sent to all licensees in the Trade Times. It was also emailed to private hire operators, SHCDA, other local authorities and the police.
5. The consultation has taken place, with 26 responses. Details of the answers and comments are attached at Appendix 4.
6. A Tees Valley policy comparison table on the driving experience of new applicants is attached as Appendix 5.
7. A Tees Valley policy comparison table on vehicle specification is attached as Appendix 6.
8. A Tees Valley policy comparison table on tinted windows in vehicles is attached as Appendix 7.
9. Next Steps – summary of results of the consultation will be considered by Cabinet on 17 October 2019 and full Council on 20 November 2019 or earlier. Following approval any changes agreed would come in to immediate effect.
10. The trade will be informed of decisions via emails to private hire operators and the SHCDA, via the trade Facebook page and via the website. In addition the requests and decisions will be added to the agenda at the next trade meeting on 5 December 2019.

**Assistant Director Administration
Democratic and Electoral Services**

Contact Officer Name:

Telephone No.

Email Address:

Financial Implications:

Environmental Implications:

Legal Implications:

Community Safety Implications:

Human Rights Implications:

Background Papers:

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Margaret Waggott

Leanne Maloney-Kelly

01642 526566

leanne.maloney-kelly@stockton.gov.uk

None

None

Any decision taken on the implementation of a new policy could be judicially reviewed within 10 weeks to the Administrative Court.

Control and regulation of the private hire and hackney carriage trade ensures the safety of the public and other road users.

None

Appendices

Not ward related