

# DECISION ITEM



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE	26 OCTOBER 2016	6
<b>HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY</b>			

## PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

### SUMMARY

The current Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy was introduced in 2006 and, whilst subject to constant review is now outdated. Officers have therefore drafted a replacement Policy reflecting current concerns and the Committee will be requested to authorise Officers to commence a consultation exercise.

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Committee considers the report and authorises Officers to carry out a full consultation exercise and report the results of the consultation exercise to a future meeting of the Public Protection Committee.

### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The current Policy was approved by Public Protection Committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2006. Various revisions and deviations from the Policy have taken place since its introduction.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services ( <b>Value for Money</b> )	√
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council ( <b>Clean and Green</b> )	√
Working with all partners ( <b>Vibrant Economy</b> )	√
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live ( <b>A Great Place to Live</b> )	√
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit ( <b>A Great Place to Visit</b> )	√

## REPORT

1. Fylde Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy came into effect in 2006 and combined and updated a number of policies into one document. A full consultation exercise was carried out prior to its introduction.
2. The Policy has been subject to constant scrutiny and amendments and on occasion such as the licensing of "Smart Cars" the Committee has felt it appropriate to deviate from the Policy where there was good reason.
3. However, the Policy is now outdated and does not reflect current concerns such as Safeguarding, Child Sexual Exploitation and Criminal Records. Therefore, a replacement draft policy has been prepared for consultation upon.
4. The draft document is a significant re-write and therefore a summary of amendments has not been produced. However, the Penalty Points appendix has been removed as it was never implemented due to lack of resources.
5. The proposed updated policy includes a replacement policy for the consideration of Convictions, Codes of Conduct for Licence Holders and for when working with Vulnerable Passengers and a relaxation on the age requirements on first application for Wheel Chair Accessible Vehicles.
6. The Committee is therefore requested to consider the report and authorise Officers to commence a consultation exercise with the results being reported back to a future meeting of the Public Protection Committee.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Legal	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Community Safety	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Human Rights and Equalities	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	There are no implications arising directly from the report.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	There are no implications arising directly from the report.

LEAD AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Department for Transport Best Practice Guidance	March 2010	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/212554/taxi-private-hire-licensing-guide.pdf">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/212554/taxi-private-hire-licensing-guide.pdf</a>
Current Policy	2006	<a href="http://www.fylde.gov.uk/business/licensing/taxilicensing/">http://www.fylde.gov.uk/business/licensing/taxilicensing/</a>

## Attached documents

1. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy – for consultation