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MEETING	LICENSING & REGULATORY COMMITTEE
DATE	3 NOVEMBER 2006
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS NIMMO (CHAIR), BARTLETT (VICE-CHAIR), HORTON, B WATSON AND I WAUDBY

#### **10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

At this point, Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda. No Members declared any interests.

#### **11. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2006 be approved and signed as a correct record.

#### **12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was reported that there were no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

#### **13. VARIATIONS TO TAXI LICENSING CONDITIONS**

Members were asked to consider a report concerning two aspects of vehicle licence conditions, which due to advances in motor vehicle technology, are causing licensing difficulties. These were minimum engine size and the fitting of tinted windows. Members were requested to consider if a revision of conditions was necessary and make, if necessary, recommendation to Full Council to effect such revisions.

Members discussed the issues surrounding environmentally unfriendly vehicles being used as hackney carriages and private hire vehicles and said that the suggested revision to minimum engine size was very sensible.

Members discussed how the proposed revisions could affect private hire limousines with totally blacked out windows. Officers advised that the council would be considering the licensing of limousines in the future but were waiting for details of a scheme to be introduced by the greater Manchester Authorities who have done considerable research on this issue

RESOLVED: that the licence conditions in respect of Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles be amended to include the following:-

- a) The licensed vehicle shall have a minimum engine capacity of 1250cc except for vehicles fitted with an engine rated with a Euro IV (or better) emission standard

- b) The licensed vehicle shall be fitted with windscreen glass that has a light transmittance of 75% and all other window glass in the vehicle shall have a light transmittance not less than 70%. Any self applied material shall be of the same standard and shall be approved by the taxi licensing office, and

That condition b) will not apply to tinted glazing fitted by the manufacturer to vehicles when new in respect of vehicles currently licensed to the council.

REASON: to update standard vehicle licensing conditions to match current developments in vehicle specifications.

G Nimmo  
Chair of Advisory Panel

The meeting started at 3.10 pm and finished at 3.20 pm.