



## **Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee**

25 April 2012

Report from the Assistant Director – Housing and Public Protection

### **Revised Taxi Licensing Policy**

#### **Summary**

1. This report asks Members to amend the Taxi Licensing Policy to permit officers to update the list of approved vehicle types that new hackney carriage vehicle licences will be issued to.

#### **Background**

2. At the meeting of the Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee on 21 November 2011 Members considered and approved a report regarding a revised Taxi Licensing Policy. A copy of the approved policy is attached at Annex A.
3. In January 2012, following the approval of the Policy, Officers invited the 2 people at the top of the hackney carriage waiting list to apply for a licence. At this time it came to our attention that the list of vehicles did not include a conventional hybrid car. Also from doing research, we have found that a number of vehicles on the list are not currently being manufactured.
4. The report asks Member to approve an amended Taxi Licensing Policy. The amended Policy is attached at Annex B.
5. This report also requests that officers are given delegated authority to update the vehicles list, show at Annex 1 of the amended Taxi Licensing Policy to include environmentally friendly vehicles when they are introduced.

#### **Consultation**

6. With regards to this report the City of York Councils Environmental Protection Units Air Quality Officer was consulted. His

recommendations have been taken into consideration regarding the vehicle types that any new licences will be issued to. Future consultation will take place regarding the introduction of new environmentally friendly vehicles.

## **Options**

7. Option 1 is to approve the Taxi Licensing Policy set out in Annex B and permit officer to up date the vehicle list.
8. Option 2 is to recommend the adoption of a different Taxi Licensing Policy.
9. Option 3 is to refuse the amended Taxi Licensing Policy.

## **Analysis**

10. Option 1 incorporates the Taxi Licensing Policy approved by Members on 21 November 2011 and gives officers delegated authority to update the vehicle list to include environmental friendly vehicles when they are introduced.
11. Option 2 will involve further consultation and additional costs which may be reflected in revised fee structures.
12. Option 3 the Taxi Licensing Policy approved on 21 November 2011 will remain in force.

## **Council Priorities**

13. The Taxi Licensing Policy supports the council priority of 'Get York Moving'.

## **Implications**

14.
  - (a) **Financial**  
There are no financial implications.
  - (b) **Human Resources (HR)**  
There are no HR implications.
  - (c) **Equalities**

The Taxi Licensing Policy promotes the adoption of hackney carriages with wheelchair access.

**(d) Legal**

There are no legal implications.

**(e) Crime and Disorder**

There are no crime and disorder implications.

**(f) Information Technology (IT)**

There are no IT implications.

**(g) Property**

There are no property implications.

**(h) Other**

There are no other implications.

## **Risk Management**

15. There are no known risks associated with this report.

## **Recommendations**

16. That Members approve Option 1 of this report and adopt the Taxi Licensing Policy as set out in Annex B.

Reason: This Policy incorporates the parts of the Taxi Licensing Policy approved by Committee on 21 November and the recommendation of the City of York Councils Environmental Protection Units Air Quality Officer.

## Contact Details

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	<b>Report Approved</b>	√	<b>Date</b> 05/04/12
<b>Specialist Implications Officer(s)</b> Martin Blythe – Legal 01904 551044			
<b>Wards Affected:</b>			<b>All</b> √
<b>For further information please contact the author of the report</b>			

## Annexes

- Annex A** – Taxi Licensing Policy approved by Members on 21 November 2011
- Annex B** – Amended Taxi Licensing Policy