

**TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENSING:  
BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE**

Portfolio:	Community
Ward(s) Affected:	All

**Purpose**

**To consider taxi and private hire vehicle licensing best practice guidance issued by the Department of Transport.**

Background

1. Hackney carriage and private hire vehicles are licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Town and Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Many aspects of licensing are left to the discretion of the Local Authority within the limitations imposed by these Acts and also the Human Rights Act 1998.

Current Positions

2. The Department for Transport published on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010 the amended taxi and private hire vehicle licensing best practice guidance. The document is attached as Annex A. The revised guidance has previously been circulated as a consultation document and this consultation document was considered by the Committee in July 2009. In considering the consultation document the Committee reviewed Council Policies in relation to hackney carriage and private hire licensing and whether any changes were necessary to comply with the guidance which had been given. Having regard to the Guidance the policies of the Council were reaffirmed at that time and no further changes are necessary now that the finalised document has been published.

Proposal

3. In view of the previous consideration given to the consultation document and Council Policies the guidance that has now been published will have no significant impact on the policies adopted by the Council. In the circumstances, it is proposed that the guidance be noted.

Resource Implications

4. There are no resource implications.

Recommendation

5. The Committee is advised to RESOLVE that the Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing: Best Practice Guidance issued by the Department for Transport be noted.

Background Papers: None

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