

## Agenda Item 5

### **GUIDELINES FOR ISSUE OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER LICENCES TO APPLICANTS WITH PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS**

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Portfolio:	Community
Ward(s) Affected:	All

### **Purpose**

**To consider amendments to the Council's Guidance for the issue of Hackney Carriage and Private hire vehicle driver licences to applicants with previous convictions.**

### **Background**

1. As a part of the program of review of processes and procedures to ensure both best practice and efficient service delivery, the Council is commencing a review of all its Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Guideline documentation.
2. The Town Police Clauses Act 187 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 provide the main legislative framework for the licensing of hackney carriage and private hire drivers and vehicles.
3. The criteria and qualifications for licensing hackney carriage and private hire drivers, as outlined in the legislation, remain the same: a district council must be satisfied that the applicant is a 'fit and proper person'. It is in determining the proper guidelines regarding 'fit and proper' that a Council must ensure that public safety is ensured.
4. The Council has in place guidelines on the issue of Driver Licences to those with previous convictions. All applicants are asked to disclose any convictions on submission of their application form. These are subsequently checked against any which are apparent on the Criminal Record Disclosure before a licence is issued.
5. Convictions in respect of which the applicant has become rehabilitated under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974 will generally be disregarded but may be taken into account in exceptional circumstances. A copy of the amended Guidelines is attached as Annex A.

### **Current Position**

6. The document has been updated with some format changes. However, the proposed material amendments are shown in underlined italics.

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Resource Implications

7. There are no resource implications.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the amended guidelines attached at Annex A be approved.

Background Papers: None

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