

Summary of Taxi Licensing in 2012

Portfolio:	Community
Ward(s) Affected:	All

Purpose

To report decisions that have been taken in respect of hackney carriage and private hire driver and vehicle licence applications that have been dealt with under powers delegated to the Executive Head – Community and to the Licensing Officer.

Background

1. Details of decisions taken under delegated powers in relation to applications relating to hackney carriage and private hire licensing under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, and have not previously been reported to the Licensing Committee as a matter of course.

Current Position

2. In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, powers have been delegated to the Executive Head of Community and to Licensing Officers to determine applications for hackney carriage and private hire, driver, vehicle and operators licences.
3. Applicants for a new hackney carriage or private hire driver’s licence are required to be subject to an enhanced check with the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS, formerly Criminal Records Bureau), a medical examination to DVLA Group 2 standard, a Driving Standards Agency (DSA) practical driving test for taxi drivers and a topographic knowledge test.
4. Applicants for a new hackney carriage or private hire vehicle licence must ensure that the vehicle meets the Council’s minimum standards and provide evidence of the vehicles safety by first passing a mechanical inspection at the Council’s nominated garage, an insurance certificate to cover the appropriate use and an MOT certificate if the vehicle is more than one year old in the case of a hackney carriage, and three years in the case of a private hire licence.
5. During the calendar year 2012 officers dealt with the following numbers of applications:

	Hackney Carriage Drivers	Hackney Carriage Vehicle (includes transfers)	Private Hire Drivers	Private Hire Vehicle (includes transfers)
New	0	9	14	14
Renewal	96	187	64	143

6. A summary of the decisions that have been taken in respect of applications that have been considered and granted during the calendar year 2012 are attached at Annex A. These details are submitted for information only and do not require ratification by the Committee.

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Recommendation

7. The Committee is advised to NOTE this report.

Background Papers: None

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