

Eddie Scott

To: Licensing Team
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy Consultation

From: Holliday, Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 May 2021 17:16
To: Paula Barnshaw <Paula.Barnshaw@surreyheath.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy Consultation

Hello Paula,

Lots of good stuff in your policy that I will steal when I look at ours later this year. I will try and find the time to complete the consultation, but just thought I'd quickly mention that (on page 86) it refers to attaching conditions to a HC driver licence. Unfortunately I do not believe you can do this, as there is no statutory condition to allow this, hence why most councils dual licence so they can attach conditions via the pH driver licence. Let me know if I need putting straight, but thought it worth an early shout.

Regards

Paul

From: Licensing Team <Licensing@surreyheath.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 May 2021 16:44

[REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy Consultation

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Good afternoon all,

CONSULTATION
Draft Hackney Carriage (Taxi) and Private Hire (PH) Licensing Policy 2021-2026

In July 2020 the Department for Transport (DfT) issued Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Standards. The document recommends that all councils make publicly available a cohesive policy document that brings together all their procedures on Taxi and PH licensing.

In response Surrey Heath has put together a draft Hackney Carriage (Taxi) and Private Hire (PH) licensing Policy, (The Policy), which brings together all of our relevant current Taxi policies and

procedures in one cohesive document. The draft Policy builds on our current good practice and acknowledges the potential impact that licensed vehicles may have on the environment.

The Council aims to ensure that licensed vehicles are of a good, safe standard. This includes an aim to minimise the impact of their emissions on both the public and the environment. Section 7 the draft Policy sets minimum standards for vehicles licensed in the Borough for both vehicle age and emissions, it is anticipated that these would replace our current standards.

We are also introducing a number of additional requirements that may affect the trade. Our aim is to minimise the costs to the trade whilst improving the service provided.

These requirements are set out below:

- Driver code of conduct and dress code
- Big face badge to be placed on dashboard
- Purpose built full hybrid, or plug in hybrid must have a minimum range of 16km (10 miles) using battery power only, a full electric vehicle must have minimum range of 112km (70 miles)
- A written HPI check on application (status of outstanding finance/ insurance write-off)
- Plate exemption criteria – proprietor must provide evidence that 80% of jobs are for a specified customer(s) and vehicles must be a certain type
- Taxi roof light to have TAXI on one side and Surrey Heath Borough Council TAXI on the other
- Replacement auto lamps to be kept in the vehicle
- No meters in Private Hire Vehicles from 01/04/2022
- Card payment terminals in all Taxis to enable contact less payment
- Vehicles with a 3rd row of seats must have adequate legroom and headroom and a gap of 300mm at the narrowest point to allow ease of egress
- Wheelchair accessible vehicles must have M1 classification on V5C and must comply with EC Whole Vehicle Type Approval
- Covid-19 considerations- advice to drivers and operators is provided.

Before finalising our new Policy it is recommended that we consult on proposed changes in licensing rules that may have significant impacts on passengers and/or the trade. We are therefore seeking your views on the proposed draft Policy which can be viewed on our website [Hackney Carriage \(Taxi\) and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2021-2026 | SURREY HEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL](#)

Have your say by emailing your comments to licensing@surreyheath.gov.uk by 21 June 2021. Alternatively you can write to the licensing team at the Council offices by the same date.

Once adopted we will keep the Policy under review and formally review it every 5 years. The Policy will be updated as appropriate.

If you would like further information on this consultation please email the Licensing team licensing@surreyheath.gov.uk .

Yours faithfully,

Paula Barnshaw
Senior Licensing Officer

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