

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Licensing Committee
<b>DATE:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> December 2016
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	Head of Planning and Public Protection
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Senior Technical Officer (Licensing) <a href="mailto:licensing@denbighshire.gov.uk">licensing@denbighshire.gov.uk</a> 01824 706433
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Proposed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Policy

## **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Licensing Committee of the results of the second consultation on the proposed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Policy.
- 1.2 For Members to consider approving the draft proposed Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy, vehicle specifications and conditions found at Appendix 1.

## **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 At the Licensing Committee in June of this year Members approved for Officers to amend the draft policy to reflect the changes as a result of the first consultation with the trade, the travelling public and other representative bodies, and to further consult with interested parties and to take account of any representations received in the final version of the policy for presentation at a future meetings.

## **3. POWER TO MAKE THE DECISION**

- 3.1 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and Town Police Clauses Act 1847.

## **4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 4.1 As a reminder to Members, a full review of the existing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Policy has taken place, (including specification and conditions). This included two workshop sessions where the taxi trade, Elected Members and Fleet Services were involved, followed by a presentation to Members of the Licensing Committee by Fleet Services.
- 4.2 As a result of the review, and at the Licensing Committee meeting in December 2015, Members agreed a draft policy for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage vehicles, vehicle specification and conditions for consultation with interested parties. The initial period of consultation ran from January to March of this year.

4.3 At a further meeting in June of this year, Officers presented the responses received as a result of the consultation, to Members, and it was resolved that a further consultation should be undertaken, which was carried out between September and November of this year. A total of 2 responses were received to the second consultation. A summary of these responses can be found at Appendix 2.

4.4 Officers have amended the proposed policy to reflect responses received, where appropriate, and have also taken the opportunity to incorporate some additional areas that did not feature in the original draft versions ie Ranks/Enforcement/Fares. These particular areas do not have any impact on interested parties as they may already exist in other policies and procedures. The purpose of including them in this draft policy is for clarity and ease of reference for licence holders and applicants.

4.5 Some of the appendices referred to in the proposed policy have not been attached as they relate to existing policies and are therefore not for consideration at this time. In addition, some of the appendices have not been numbered or may require re-numbering as they will slot into the policy in the appropriate location.

4.6 In addition to the proposed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Policy, Specification and Conditions, Members have previously approved to adopt the Department for Transport Model Byelaws, which sit alongside the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy. The Model Byelaws are awaiting confirmation by the Secretary of State before final implementation.

5.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

5.1

That Members adopt the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy, Specification and Conditions found at Appendix 1, to come into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

5.2

To authorise the Head of Planning and Public Protection in consultation with the Chair of Licensing to make minor administrative amendments to the policy where necessary following a three yearly review, or earlier if appropriate.