



REPORT TO:	Licensing Committee
DATE:	7 December 2016
LEAD OFFICER:	Head of Planning and Public Protection Services
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SUBJECT:	Update on Penalty Points Procedure

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To provide members with an annual update on the Penalty Points Procedure.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 The Penalty Points Policy and Procedure is a single document encompassing how the Council will deal with minor breaches in respect of taxi licensing and was approved by Members in September 2014 and further updated in September 2015.

2.2 The issuing of points has been active since January 2015.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The council's key responsibility under the licensing legislation is to ensure that only fit and proper persons are granted and remain hackney carriage / private hire drivers or operators. This is to ensure the safety of those using hackney carriages and private hire vehicles and general public.

3.2 Members will be aware that Officers presented a revised Penalty Point Policy and Procedure at the September 2015 Committee meeting.

3.3 Following a period of consultation Members resolved to adopt the revised Penalty Points Policy and Procedure at their March 2016 Committee meeting.

3.4 The Policy and Procedure is to be reviewed every three years.

- 3.5 In adopting the Policy and Procedure members requested a progress report on the anniversary of the introduction of the Policy and Procedure.
- 3.6 The period for this update is from 1st October 2015 – 30 September 2016. Members will note that the following points of interest:
- Points have been awarded throughout the year to 15 drivers in total. This equates to 3% of the total of the licensed drivers.
 - No driver has had multiple incidents resulting in the issue of points.
 - Four drivers were issued with the maximum number of points in a single incident
 - Some drivers have appeared in front of this Committee
 - Three incidents involved presenting a vehicle for test which was in an unsafe condition. This has increased from two incidents last year.
 - Failing to report convictions has trebled as has vehicles showing a dirty/filthy interior
 - Incidents of tyre defects have reduced by 80% and smoking in a vehicle has halved from last year.
- 3.7 A chart showing the awarded points during the period can be found at Appendix A.
- 3.8 Members will note the increase in certain areas of the Penalty Points scheme. Officers are proposing that they should continue with advisory messages via Newsletters and press articles together with regular roadside compliance checks to reduce non-compliance.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Members acknowledge the information provided on the breakdown of the points issued.