

## HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE EMISSIONS POLICY

<b>Head of Service:</b>	Rod Brown, Head of Housing & Community
<b>Wards affected:</b>	(All Wards);
<b>Appendices (attached):</b>	Appendix 1 – Proposed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy

### Summary

To recommend the Council adopt the revised Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy

### Recommendation (s)

#### The Council is asked to:

Adopt the revised Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy attached at Appendix 1 as amended in accordance with the decision of the of the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee on 26 September 2023.

### 1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To adopt a revised Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licencing Policy in accordance with the Council's work to reduce harmful emissions from licensed vehicles, whilst supporting the taxi and private hire trade to transition to a cleaner fleet.

### 2 Background

- 1.1 A report to the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee of 15 June 2023 set out the background to the proposal, the current position of licensed vehicles and proposed a revised policy with the aim of reducing emissions from licensed vehicles in a way which was sustainable for the trade.
- 2.1 Subsequently a 6 week consultation ran from 19 June to 30 July 2023, the results of which were considered by the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee on 26 September 2023.
- 2.2 The recommendation from the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee is for the Council to adopt the revised draft policy as set out in appendix 1 with the relevant changes appearing in section 4.4 in this document.

### 3 Risk Assessment

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### Legal or other duties

#### 3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 An equalities impact assessment has been prepared and considered by the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee at its meeting on 26 September. There were no adverse equalities implications found.

#### 3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 The availability of properly licensed vehicles and drivers, particularly late in the evening, is important to ensuring the safety of the night time economy. Following the consultation, the draft policy was adjusted to accommodate concerns in the trade that there was a risk of a reduction in the numbers of vehicles available.

#### 3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None as a direct consequence of this report. However there is an existing means within the policy requiring drivers to be DBS checked and for them to undertake safeguarding awareness training.

#### 3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None identified

## 4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no additional financial implications for the Council based on these proposals.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** None arising from the contents of this report.

## 5 Legal Implications

5.1 The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Section 47(1) states that a District Council may attach to the grant of a licence of a Hackney Carriage under the Act of 1847 such conditions as the District Council may consider reasonably necessary. Section 47(2) states that without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing sub-section, a District Council may require any Hackney Carriage licensed by them under the Act of 1847 to be of such design or appearance or bear such distinguishing marks as shall clearly identify it as a Hackney Carriage. Section 47(3) states that any person aggrieved by any conditions attached to such a licence may appeal to a Magistrate's Court.

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5.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** one further to the content of this report

### 6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- Safe and Well
- Green and Vibrant

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** The purpose of the recommendations is to benefit the climate and local environment. Phasing out the licensing the most polluting vehicles represent a step change to addressing pollution on a local level and addressing the wider climate change emergency.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** The proposals will increase the use of vehicles that are less impactful on the environment and reduce the cost barrier of entry to the trade which, in the longer term, will support the availability of safe vehicles for hire by residents and visitors.

6.5 **Partnerships:** None identified.

### 7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

**Previous reports:**

- Licensing and Planning Policy Committee 26 September 2023
- Licensing and Planning Policy Committee 15 June 2023

**Other papers:**

- None