



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE 9 FEBRUARY 2005

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

### Amendment to Private Hire Vehicle Specification

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. To approve the proposed amendment to the Private Hire Vehicle Specification as set out in Appendix 2.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Council's current private hire vehicle specification requires that all seats are forward facing.
- 2.2 Some manufacturers of specially converted private hire vehicles now include vehicle variants with some rear facing passenger seats, similar to those found in purpose-built hackney carriages. One private hire operator within Derby has expressed a wish to license such a vehicle, subject to it meeting the private hire vehicle specification. Therefore, the existing specification would need to be amended to allow rear-facing seats. The existing and proposed paragraphs are set out in appendix 2.
- 2.3 Licensing officers are satisfied that this type of seating configuration is safe and have no objection to the amendment.

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**Background papers:** none  
**List of appendices:** Appendix 1 Implications  
Appendix 2 Proposed Amendment

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. None

**Legal**

- 2.1 Any proprietor whose license application for a specific vehicle is refused has a right of appeal to the Magistrates Court.
- 2.2 Any person who is aggrieved by the Council's policy with regard to vehicle specifications may seek a judicial review of the policy.

**Personnel**

3. None.

**Equalities impact**

4. A wider range of vehicles will provide better choice and access for all the citizens of Derby.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

5. Hackney carriage and private hire licensing contributes to the Council's objective of **protecting and supporting people.**

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

#### **Existing Paragraph**

- 6(a) All sets must be forward facing and adequate in size, shape and condition for passengers.

#### **Proposed Amendment**

- 6(a) All seats must be forward or rear facing and adequate in size, shape and condition for passengers.