

Taxi Licensing Administration & Compliance Activities - Q4 2016/17

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report provides information on the activities the taxi licensing service has undertaken during quarter 4 of the 2016/17 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The information provided in this report is for member information only.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The statistics for taxi licensing and associated licensing compliance activities for quarter four of 2016/17 are attached at Appendix 2.
- 4.2 The information contained at Appendix 2 sets out the number of requests for service received by the Licensing Team and the number of licences processed during that particular period.
- 4.3 The information contained at Appendix 3 sets out the vehicle compliance work carried out during the particular period. Using a risk-based approach, Licensing Compliance & Enforcement Officers will often identify vehicles to inspect that appear to fall below the Council's standards for licensed vehicles. It is important therefore to understand that these statistics do not necessarily indicate the condition of all licensed vehicles.
- 4.4 The information contained at Appendix 4 sets out the knowledge test statistics for the quarter and other compliance / enforcement related exercises undertaken throughout the particular period.
- 4.5 A breakdown of licensed vehicles by registration year for the particular period can be found at Appendix 5.

- 4.6 A breakdown of the type of reports presented to the Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee and a breakdown of the outcomes for the particular period can be found at Appendix 6.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Not applicable.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Lucie Keeler
Financial officer	n/a
Human Resources officer	n/a
Service Director(s)	n/a
Other(s)	Michael Kay

For more information contact:	Sandra Mansell, Tel. 01332 641931, e-mail sandra.mansell@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Applications Processed and Service Requests Appendix 3 – Compliance Work Appendix 4 – Knowledge Test Statistics

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 None directly arising from this report.

Legal

- 2.1 None directly arising from this report.

Personnel

- 3.1 None directly arising from this report.

IT

- 4.1 None directly arising from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None directly arising from this report.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None directly arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None directly arising from this report.

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 None directly arising from this report.

Risk Management

- 9.1 None directly arising from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 The proposals set out in this report will **deliver better outcomes for our communities, more efficient and effective services and improved value for money for our customers.**

TAXI LICENSING QUARTERLY STATISTICS

	REQUESTS FOR SERVICE	APPLICATIONS PROCESSED										
		HACKNEY VEHICLES		HACKNEY DRIVERS		OPERATORS		PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES		PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS		VEHICLE TRANSFERS
	63 (25)	New	Renewal	New	Renewal	New	Renewal	New	Renewal	New	Renewal	
		11 (20)	75 (44)	6 (2)	1 (5)	6 (9)	0 (0)	86 (97)	198 (194)	41 (25)	2 (3)	10 (13)

NO.s OF PEOPLE REQUESTING SERVICE	AVERAGE SERVICE TIME	AVERAGE WAITING TIME
857 (996)	9 (9) mins	8 (9) mins

TOTAL NUMBER OF CURRENT LICENCES (as at 21 April 2017)	
Hackney Carriage Drivers	352 (352)
Hackney Carriage Vehicles	286 (290)
Private Hire Drivers	912 (905)
Private Hire Vehicles	943 (912)
Private Hire Operators	115 (109)

() denotes previous quarter figures

VEHICLE COMPLIANCE STATISTICS

VEHICLE INSPECTIONS					
Type	Number Inspected	Satisfactory	Advisory Defects	Vehicle Referred for Inspection	Serious Defects (Suspension)
Hackney Carriages	10 (5)	2 (1)	5 (3)	3 (1)	3 (11)
Private Hire	18 (22)	3 (2)	9 (12)	6 (8)	11 (12)

VEHICLE SUSPENSIONS							
Type	Number Suspended	Serious Defects Identified					
		Lights	Brakes	Steering	Tyres	Suspension	Other*
Hackney Carriages	3 (11)	0 (2)	0 (1)	1 (1)	0 (0)	1 (1)	3 (11)
Private Hire	11 (12)	4 (5)	2 (2)	3 (3)	6 (0)	4 (3)	10 (10)

() denotes previous quarter figures

*Other refers to any defect outside the items listed in the “5 point safety check” (lights, brakes, tyres, steering & suspension) carried out by the testing stations during a spot check which can render a vehicle, if not always unsafe, certainly unfit for public service and/or in serious breach of licence conditions.

*Other serious defects can include:

- Meter seals missing/damaged/tampered with
- Meter calibration incorrect/overcharging
- Door wind check straps weak operation
- Misaligned doors
- Water ingress into passenger/luggage compartment
- Unable to access engine/boot compartments
- Loose/deteriorated engine drive belts
- Battery insecure
- Illuminated warning lights on instrument panel
- Dirty interior/exterior
- Broken/insecure seat bases/back
- Worn/defective seat belts
- Radiator coolant leak(s)
- Engine oil leak
- Exhaust system blowing/leaking
- Engine fuel leak(s)
- Engine misfires
- Excessive smoke emission from exhaust
- Missing trim exposing sharp edges
- Grab handles insecure
- Excessive bodywork corrosion
- Transmission faults/leak(s)
- Defective windscreen wipers/washers
- Loose/missing bodywork

OTHER COMPLIANCE/ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

KNOWLEDGE TESTS

		Delegates Booked	Failed to Attend	Passed	Pass Rate of those Attending %
No. of Sessions Offered	9 (11)				
Hackney Carriage		4 (3)	0 (0)	0 (2)	0 (67)
Private Hire		59 (61)	3 (5)	7 (15)	11.9 (24.6)

() denotes previous quarter figures

TAXI ENFORCEMENT WORK

One night time enforcement exercise was undertaken with Derbyshire Constabulary. 4 licensed vehicles were suspended, 3 of which were also served with a police prohibition notice.

NVQ QUALIFICATION

As of 21 April 2017:

	Hackney Drivers	Private Hire Drivers
Current Suspensions	0	0

Appendix 5

BREAKDOWN OF CURRENT LICENSED VEHICLES BY REGISTRATION YEAR (at 21 April 2017)

Year of Registration	Hackney Carriage	Private Hire
1995	1	0
1996	1	1
1997	2	1
1998	16	4
1999	18	16
2000	27	12
2001	34	16
2002	18	32
2003	16	51
2004	23	109
2005	27	121
2006	36	97
2007	29	127
2008	9	87
2009	11	66
2010	5	49
2011	3	30
2012	1	31
2013	5	31
2014	3	27
2015	0	16
2016	1	18
2017	0	1
Total	286	943

TAXI LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE STATISTICS

No. of Reports in Total by type		Outcomes by type		No. of Decisions different to Officer Recommendation	
Convictions (new driver)	4	No action	0	Agreed	6
Convictions (existing driver)	1	Grant	0	Disagreed (see table below)	2
Caution (new driver)	0	Grant with warning	0	No recommendation made by officers	0
Caution (existing driver)	0	Renew with warning	0	Deferred	0
Arrest & Charge	0	Warning	0		
Complaints	1	Warning with training	0		
Failure to comply with committee decisions	0	Suspension	1		
Repeated vehicle suspensions	0	Suspension with training	1		
Plying for hire	0	Revocation	0		
Historical Information	0	Deferred	0		
Breach of Conditions	1	Refused (new/renewal)	6		
Social Care Concerns – Sexual Assault	0	Extension of Time for Training	0		
Request for Exemption	1	Deferred for further information	0		
Medical Issue	0				
Disclosure by Police	0				

Appendix 6 cont.

No. of Decisions different to Officer Recommendation		
	Officer Recommendation (based on information available at time of writing report)	Committee Decision
Case 1 (failed to attend hearing)	Warning	14 days suspension + BTEC Training
Case 2 (failed to attend hearing)	Warning	28 day suspension

Appeals Against Committee Decision	
Upheld	0
Not upheld	1 (£500 costs)
Compromise	0

No. of Committees in Quarter		
Members attendance	Member	Chair
Ashburner		
Barker	1	
Froggatt		
Hezelgrave		
Holmes	2	
Jackson	2	
Keith		1
Khan J		
Marshall		
Pegg	1	
Poulter	2	
Raju		
Sandhu		1
Whitby		