



LICENSING COMMITTEE
5 November 2020

ITEM 06

Report sponsor: Tracey Blackwell, Interim
Director of Public Protection & Streetpride
Report author: Angela Rawson, Team Leader,
Licensing

Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards Update

Purpose

- 1.1 The report provides an update of the new documentation released by the Department of Transport (DfT) which is intended to improve safety for taxi and private hire vehicle passengers.

Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the Committee note the content of the report.

Reason(s)

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

Supporting information

- 4.1 The subject was first introduced to this Committee on 6 August 2020 following the government's introduction of statutory guidance by way of new standards for the taxi and private hire vehicle trades across England and Wales.
- 4.2 The main highlights of the document included:
 - Review of Taxi Licensing Policy and decision-making process
 - Ensuring a robust, user friendly reporting system for passenger complaints
 - Driver licensing - frequency of DBS checks to 6-monthly, safeguarding awareness training and language proficiency testing
 - Vehicle licensing – CRB for vehicle proprietors, use of CCTV
 - Private Hire Vehicle Operator licensing – DBS for operators, condition review
 - Enforcement – joint authorisations of officers, expectation setting and sanctions.

Further information is set out at Appendix 1.

- 4.3 The full document can be seen at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statutory-taxi-and-private-hire-vehicle-standards>

- 4.4 It was agreed that updates would be given to the Licensing Committee at regular intervals to highlight the progress being made towards meeting some of those recommendations.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 None directly arising from this report.

Other options

- 6.1 Not applicable.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 Not applicable for the purpose of this report.

Legal implications

- 8.1 None directly arising from this report.

Climate implications

- 9.1 None directly arising from this report.

Other significant implications

- 10.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal	Michael Kay, Head of Service	26/10/20
Finance		
Service Director(s)		
Report sponsor		
Other(s)		
Background papers:	None	
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Key Deliverables	