



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

18 October 2006

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

### TAXI LICENSING SECTION - STATISTICS FOR LICENSING & ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES – QUARTER 3 2006

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. To note the report.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will be aware that this Committee has agreed that licensing officers will report back to this Committee on a quarterly basis with performance and workload data relating to taxi licensing activities. The statistics for July to September 2006 are attached as Appendix 2.
- 2.2 As previously, some caution is required when considering the statistics for vehicle inspection and suspension to avoid them being viewed out of context. Although some kerbside inspections relate to vehicles selected at random, most are targeted at those vehicles which appear to fall below the council's standards (e.g. vehicles which are dirty, exhibit minor damage or defects, or have a history of poor maintenance). These vehicles do not reflect the standards within the hackney carriage and private hire fleets as a whole.
- 2.3 It is widely acknowledged that the Council sets high standards for its licensed vehicles, and that this is reflected in the quality of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles within the city. However, these statistics show that there continues to be no room for complacency and both the trade and licensing officers must continue to work to improve vehicle standards. Taxi trade representatives support this view and have advised their members of the need for to maintain their vehicles to a good standard.
- 2.4 In response to previous reports, Licensing Enforcement Officers have increased monitoring of vehicle standards and have organised a series of joint exercises with the Police and the Vehicle and Operator services agency (VOSA) over the coming months.
- 2.5 The statistics for the number of callers at the Taxi Licensing office only relate to visitors who wish/need to speak to an officer. The office also receives callers who wish to collect application packs or licensing information which are available in the reception area; the numbers of these visitors is not recorded.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	David Dowbenko tel 71 6268 e-mail dave.dowbenko@derby.gov.uk
<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>List of Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 Implications Appendix 2 Taxi Licensing Performance & Workload Statistics

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
---------------------

**Financial**

1. None

**Legal**

2. None

**Personnel**

3. None

**Equalities impact**

4. None

**Corporate priorities**

5. This matter comes under the Council's priority of **reducing inefficiency by improving business processes and ability to perform.**