



**TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS
COMMITTEE
5 July 2012**

ITEM 6

Report of the Strategic Director of
Neighbourhoods

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE SPECIFICATION IN RELATION TO SPARE WHEEL PROVISION

SUMMARY

- 1.1 On 14 March 2012 the Taxi Licensing and Appeals Committee considered a report in relation to the spare wheel provision contained in the Specification for Private Hire Vehicles.
- 1.2 The Committee resolved to approve an amendment of the wording to Paragraph 8 of the Specification.
- 1.3 Unfortunately the agreed wording is leading to a misinterpretation of the requirements by the trade and requires alteration.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To amend the Private Hire Vehicle Specification in relation to spare wheel provision to read as:

The vehicle must have four road wheels and carry one spare wheel, jack and brace all securely stored in a position not liable to damage passenger's luggage. The spare wheel and tyre must be identical to the size of the four road wheels. The spare wheel must be compatible with the vehicle and be capable of being safely and securely fitted to the vehicle to which it relates using the existing vehicle fittings.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To provide clear and precise details of the exact requirements of the spare wheel provision to the trade, licensed drivers, approved garages and enforcement officers.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 On 14 March 2012 the Taxi Licensing and Appeals Committee considered a report in relation to the spare wheel provision contained in the Specification for Private Hire Vehicles.

- 4.2 The Committee resolved to approve the amendment of the wording to Paragraph 8 of the Specification for Private Hire Vehicles, to read as: *The vehicle must have at least four road worthy wheels and carry at least one spare wheel, a jack and brace all securely stored in a position not liable to damage passenger's luggage. The spare tyre must be an identical size to the four road wheels.*
- 4.3 Routine enforcement has identified that some licensed drivers have a spare wheel that is of the same size, but do not have fittings that match those of the vehicle. This has meant that if the driver required the spare tyre to be used, it could not be fitted safely and securely to the vehicle.
- 4.3 To provide clear and precise details of the exact requirements of Paragraph 8 of the Specification for Private Hire Vehicles to the trade, licensed drivers, approved garages and enforcement officers, it is proposed that the wording be amended to read as; *The vehicle must have four road wheels and carry one spare wheel, jack and brace all securely stored in a position not liable to damage passenger's luggage. The spare wheel and tyre must be identical to the size of the four road wheels. The spare wheel must be compatible with the vehicle and be capable of being safely and securely fitted to the vehicle to which it relates using the existing vehicle fittings.*

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Not Applicable

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Olu Idowu
Financial officer	n/a
Human Resources officer	n/a
Service Director(s)	John Tomlinson
Other(s)	n/a

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 None.

Legal

- 2.1 As the licensing authority, the Council is obliged to ensure that its licensing policies and related terms and conditions effectively safeguard the public interest.

Personnel

- 3.1 None.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 The proposed changes will apply equally to all groups within the community and no particular group(s) will be disadvantaged.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 None.

Carbon commitment

- 6.1 None.

Value for money

- 7.1 None.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 8.1 The proposal supports the corporate priority to ensure the people in Derby will enjoy **good quality services that meet local needs** and **being safe and feeling safe**.