



Derby City Council

LICENSING COMMITTEE
9 November 2017

ITEM 5

Report of the Strategic Director of Communities &
Place

Condition and Safety of Licensed Vehicles in Derby City

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Correspondence has been received from Derbyshire Constabulary which raises concerns about the condition and safety of the private hire and hackney carriage fleet in the city.
- 1.2 The report sets out these concerns and proposes officers undertake further investigation into the options available to address them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the content of the letter received from Derbyshire Constabulary about the condition and safety of the private hire and hackney carriage fleet in Derby City.
- 2.2 To request that the Director of Communities Environment and Regulatory Services investigates and reports back to Licensing Committee on options available to address the concerns raised by Derbyshire Constabulary.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To inform the Licensing Committee of the view of Derbyshire Constabulary on the condition and safety of the private hire and hackney fleet in Derby City.
- 3.2 To enable the Licensing Committee to consider the options that may need to be implemented to address the concerns of Derbyshire Constabulary, to make any observations and to determine, if deemed appropriate, a course of action to address the issues raised.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Council has received a letter from Derbyshire Constabulary which raises concerns about the condition and safety of the private hire and hackney carriage fleet in the city. The letter is attached at Appendix 2 for information and highlights a much higher rate of failure with vehicles checked in the city compared to elsewhere in the county.
- 4.2 The letter identifies three main concerns:
- (i) the age of the fleet;
 - (ii) the amount of formal inspection; and
 - (iii) the extent of operators' professional responsibility .
- 4.3 Currently, subject to a vehicle passing an annual test, the Council has no restrictions on the age of vehicles that can be licensed. Options that could be considered in relation to this would be the implementation of a scheme that considers a minimum age or minimum emission standard for licensed vehicles. The adoption of a minimum emission standard for licensed vehicles will also be relevant to the work currently being undertaken in relation to the need to introduce a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) in the city.
- 4.4 Legislation determines how many times a year a licensed vehicle can be formally inspected, which is currently up to three times a year. In Derby, our licensed vehicles are inspected annually. Options that could be considered in relation to this would be changes to the frequency of formal inspections for vehicles dependent on when they were first registered.
- 4.5 Further investigation into the options available will be undertaken and it is proposed that these will be set out for consideration in a report to the next scheduled committee in the new year.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Olu Idowu
Financial officer	n/a
Human Resources officer	n/a
Estates/Property officer	n/a
Service Director(s)	n/a
Other(s)	Michael Kay

For more information contact:	Sandra Mansell 01332 641931 sandra.mansell@derby.gov.uk
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Background papers: List of appendices:	None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Correspondence from Derbyshire Constabulary
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IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 None directly arising from this report.

Legal

- 2.1 Consultation with the trade would need to be undertaken on any changes that may be proposed.

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 but, dependent on any future proposals considered, further assessment may be required.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None directly arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 The implementation of any scheme that considers a minimum age or minimum emission standard for licensed vehicles will have an impact on the environment.

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 address the corporate objectives of:

- protecting vulnerable children, young people, adults and older people
- promoting health and well-being
- delivering our services differently