



REVIEW OF DRIVER TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS

SUMMARY

- 1.1 In November 2009, Council approved a requirement for all licensed drivers to obtain a relevant driving qualification.
- 1.2 Recent changes to the qualifications have been made which need to be taken into account during the review.
- 1.3 A review of this requirement is necessary to ensure it remains effective.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To undertake a review of the need to obtain a qualification and decide whether or not any changes are required to the process.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure that the requirement for all licensed drivers to obtain a relevant driving qualification remains effective.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 In November 2009, Council approved the recommendations of the Taxi Licensing and Appeals Committee to introduce a requirement for all licensed drivers to obtain a relevant driving qualification.

4.2 The recommendations that were approved are set out below:

- Introduce a mandatory requirement that all holders of hackney carriage and private hire drivers licences are required to have passed the NVQ (Edexcel) in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving Level 2. For existing drivers, this will be within five years of this being adopted by the Council. For new drivers, this will be within five years of their licence being issued (subject to this provision being adopted by the Council)
- Review the current guidance issued to members of the Taxi Licensing Sub Committee. Amend the decision options available to them to incorporate the need to undertake refresher training. This will be the BTEC Level 2 (Edexcel) in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire. The new decision options will be:
 - § No action
 - § Warning
 - § BTEC Refresher training
 - § Suspension
 - § BTEC Refresher training and suspension
 - § Revocation

4.3 Committee agreed to review the changes after 12 months to ensure they remained effective.

4.4 Changes have also been made to the NVQ and BTEC qualifications that were originally approved. Both have been updated and are now part of the new Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) qualification system. The titles of the new qualifications have been amended to the 'Edexcel NVQ Level 2 Certificate in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving (Taxi and Private Hire) (QCF)' and 'Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Introduction to the Role of the Professional Taxi and Private Hire Driver (QCF)'.

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
Service Director(s)	n/a
Other(s)	None

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Background papers:
List of appendices:

None
Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1.1 None directly arising.

Legal

2.1 None directly arising.

Personnel

3.1 None directly arising.

Equalities Impact

4.1 None directly arising.

Health and Safety

5.1 None directly arising.

Carbon commitment

6.1 None directly arising.

Value for money

7.1 None directly arising.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

8.1 The proposal supports the corporate priorities to ensure the people in Derby will enjoy **achieving their learning potential** and **good quality services that meet local needs**.